

HALESOWEN CHRONICLE



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Laura bakes her way into two national finals

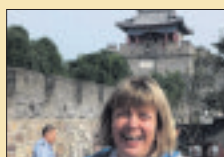
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Charity trek

Sister walks the Great Wall of China for funds

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Yeltz out

Extra-time defeat in Birmingham Senior Cup

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Carer got £28,000 in false benefits

A BENEFITS cheat claimed almost £28,000 of taxpayers' money by saying that she was so disabled she needed care - despite actually being a carer herself in Halesowen, a court has heard.

Tina Potter pleaded guilty to dishonestly claiming £27,982 in disability benefits from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) despite working at the Everley Home For The Elderly, Lyde Green.

Mrs Kelly Crowe, prosecuting, told Sandwell Magistrates Court on Tuesday that Potter made false claims from August 2008 until December 2012 while she was a senior in charge. "But she claimed she was immobile or almost immobile and that needed help from a person each night and needed help from another person throughout the day," Mrs Kelly said.

The DWP launched an investigation and the 50-year-old, of Meadow Walk, Cradley Heath, was charged with two counts of dishonestly making a false statement to obtain a benefit.

Mr Darryl Foster, defending, said: "Mrs Potter is an ill woman who was formally diagnosed with a condition in 2010. She was told by her doctor that the more she did the less impact she would have. That is why she continued working."

Sentencing was adjourned until November 25.

Countdown to switch-on

TRADERS in Halesowen are preparing for the Christmas light switch. The event will be on November 16, with entertainment beginning from noon.

The switch-on will be performed by the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Alan Finch, and Father Christmas. It is being organised by Dudley Council with the Halesowen Chamber of Trade and The Cornbow Shopping Centre. There will be live entertainment and music in Somers Square, vintage organs playing in the High Street and unfair rides for youngsters.

NOTHING RULED OUT FROM CUTS

THE cabinet of Dudley Council was meeting this week to see where savings can be made after an extra £32 million worth of cuts, which will see jobs axed and car park charges rise, were announced last week.

by Alex Ross

Council leader David Sparks has warned that everything will be looked at.

And he said council tax - which has remained frozen for the past three years - will be reviewed, adding he could not rule out a rise.

Bosses will need to make the extra cuts on top of an initially-predicted £26m amount set earlier this year following a huge drop in Government funding.

The council had already planned for up to 334 job losses by 2017, as well as major cuts to its children's services, museums and highways expenditure - but Councillor Sparks warned more savings must be found.

Slump

He said officers will be looking 'at everything' in a bid to fill the massive shortfall, which he says has been caused by the slump in Government funding. Funding is predicted to fall from £74m next year to £40m in three years.

Car park charges are also set to rise over the next three years to help generate much-needed income. They could go up by 10 per cent, following on from a 20 per cent rise in May this year.

Councillor Sparks said: "Services will need to be cut back further and clearly there will need to be a reduction in the workforce."

"We will do everything we can to avoid compulsory redundancies, but we cannot guarantee everyone's jobs when we have such a funding gap proposed by this Government. The whole

system of funding local government will need to be reviewed. It is in crisis."

Asked what his message for the residents in Dudley was, he said: "My intention is to maintain the fabric and framework of the council, but I accept that we will need to find new ways of providing services and we are now considering our options. My message is that Dudley Council is always doing the best it can in difficult circumstances."

Government funding comes in the form of a Revenue Support Grant. The council's predicted grant was calculated last month and the budgets amended to show a new £32m shortfall at the end of the next three years.

A budget had already been proposed for the next three years with savings of £9m in 2014/15, moving up to £18m by 2015/16 and £26m by 2016/17.

This will go back to the cabinet this week for the required extra savings to be considered. Members will be asked to agree to a voluntary redundancy programme for next year.

Department directors met staff and union representatives last week to present the situation. Opposition Conservative group leader, Councillor Patrick Harley, said the council had to become 'radical' over cuts.

● Big impact - Page 3

Revamped college opens outdoor gym



College principal Keith Bates outside Block Nine, part of the continuing work to the Whittingham Road campus

HALESOWEN College has opened an outdoor gym as part of a £20 million transformation of its campus.

It has invested £60,000 in the facility and 10-stage fitness trail at the site in Whittingham Road.

Bosses have been working to replace the outdated 1960s buildings and offer a wider range of modern facilities.

The gym is used by students on sport and public services courses during lessons but is also available for use on week days.

College team leader for outdoor activities and sport, Tim Bosley, said: "This is a great new facility at the

college, which is accessible to all. It will help students learn more and keep up their own fitness levels."

The first phase of the redevelopment project was completed in 2009, with the construction of a modern refectory and classrooms for health social care known as Block Eight.

Learning

Since then Block Nine, housing science laboratories and IT suites, has been completed along with Block 10, which has facilities for students learning courses ranging from animal care to travel and tourism. It also has new

facilities for those with learning difficulties.

Block 11 is due to open next year and will offer facilities, including learning resources, a coffee shop and staff centre.

Bosses will showcase the campus at open events, from 6-9pm on November 8, and 10am until 4pm on November 9.

Principal Keith Bates said: "Our open days are always extremely popular, which is why we have added Friday evening this year, giving even greater opportunity for potential students to come and have a look around."

Threat to £200,000 overhaul of eaterie

A £200,000 revamp of a McDonald's, which would create 20 jobs, is under threat after planning permission was turned down.

Bosses want to create a dual lane drive thru and overhaul the car park at the site in Bromsgrove Road, Halesowen.

They say the scheme would reduce waiting times for customers and help to cut noise and congestion.

But planners at Dudley Council have refused their first application, saying the fast food giant has failed to provide enough information on how noise levels would decrease and how the new layout would work.

McDonald's said it would work with the council so that the application could be re-submitted later.

A planning statement submitted by McDonald's said there would be a car park extension to accommodate the drive thru layout, which would involve an additional order point.

The plans show the single lane traffic would split to provide a second lane so that side-by-side order points would be created.

Two residents in nearby Grange Road had objected to the plans fearing an increase in noise and litter. One wrote: "The current situation is already noisy from car doors banging, motorbike engines being revved and loud shouting and music."

Quiz raises hospice cash

AROUND £800 has been raised at a Halesowen charity pub quiz and auction held for a hospice.

Regulars at the Hare and Hounds pub, Hagley Road, dug deep and staff, who organised the quiz, hosted an auction with prizes donated from local businesses. Cash will be donated to Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Hospice in memory of former customer Judith Groves, who died earlier this year. Marie Whittaker, from the pub, said: "We had a great night and there was a good atmosphere."

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Love-row man jailed for stab attack

A SPURNED lover who stabbed a bystander during a heated argument with his former partner has been jailed for four-and-a-half years.

Steve Jones was holding a door open for the woman when violence flared outside the flats where both lived, a judge heard. Jordan Kerr, was outside the building in Lower Derry Street, Brierley Hill, when she returned in the early hours, Wolverhampton Crown Court was told. He had gone there with a knife to damage her car, Mr Darron Whitehead, prosecuting, said. Kerr, aged 29, had believed she was seeing another man fol-

lowing the break-up. She had phoned ahead to ask neighbour Mr Jones to open the communal door to the flats because it did not have a buzzer, the court heard. Mr Whitehead said: "Mr Jones was not involved in any way. He was merely standing there to let the woman into the building when the defendant walked up and punched him full in the mouth. The men then started fighting."

Kerr, who had been drinking heavily, told police: "He was getting the better of me and I stabbed him. I picked up the knife because I

wanted to damage her car." Mr Neil Skinner, defending, said: "He started the fight but was punched 30 times and retaliated with the knife. It was a totally unnecessary incident."

Mr Jones, who was also bitten on the face, told police: "When we stopped fighting we said 'what the hell was all that about?' and shook hands. Then I realised I had been stabbed." There was a 1cm cut to his abdomen and he was taken to hospital after the January 27 attack.

Kerr, of Ladywood, Birmingham, admitted wounding with intent.

Fear of a gastric band helps Joanne lose 13st

HER weight had reached 24st 5lbs, she could barely walk up the stairs and suffered with high blood pressure.

But it was the fear of being told that she needed a gastric band to get the weight off that gave Joanne Richards the wake-up call she needed to drastically slim down.

Shunning the dietician's advice she vowed to do it herself - and now, after completely changing her lifestyle, she has dropped an incredible 10 dress sizes.

Nineteen months after vowing to lose weight she says she has a new lease of life and can 'run for miles'.

The civil servant has gone from a size 32 to a slinky size 12 and lost more than 13st, now weighing 10st 12lb.

The mother of one, from Wollaslee, near Stourbridge, said: "Everything's changed, I feel 10 years younger."

Joanne, aged 29, said it was the 'fear' of the surgery which had inspired her to visit a doctor to get advice on how to lose the weight herself.

"I was worried about not being able to live a normal life afterwards, as I love food and eating out, which I could do through a sensible eating plan," she said.

Amazing

Joanne was referred to a slimming class to help her shed the pounds. "All my life I had been overweight," she said.

"At the age of 28 I was on high blood pressure tablets, could barely walk up stairs and had acanthosis nigricans - darkening of skin - that had become untreatable," she said.

Soon after starting the slimming sessions, Joanne began to see results. "My first weigh-in showed an amazing loss of 11lb, a really good building block for the rest of my journey," she said.

Her eating habits changed as she made healthier choices.

Joanne said: "I still treat myself as I love chocolate but keep it in moderation."

"I learned to cook from scratch



Joanne Richards before she went on her diet

and to make meals out healthy and still lose weight each week. I can walk comfortably again, and am happy."

She now runs her own Weight-Watchers groups.

"I seemed to be inspiring people, unintentionally - my family all joined WeightWatchers, my friends were joining, and people at my own meeting were asking me for advice,"

she said. "I soon realised this was what I wanted to do."

"I wanted to help others to do what I had done. WeightWatchers has changed everything about me, not only my health but my happiness, confidence and my outlook on life."

"To anyone starting I would tell them to set small goals to keep themselves focused and to not be



The new slimmed down Joanne Richards

scared of the bigger picture and I would say one bad day does not have to end up in a bad week," Joanne added.

Her classes are held at the Royal British Legion, Lower Gornal, on Wednesdays at 9.45am and 6.45pm and at Sedgley Community Church, Sedgley, on Thursdays at 5.30pm. For details email jrichards@weight-watchers.co.uk

The switch to academy celebrated

A PRIMARY school has held a special launch day to celebrate its transition to an academy, and set out its visions for the future.

Timbertree, in Cradley Heath, became an academy in June after joining United Learning, a group of academies and independent schools.

It celebrated the switch with a host of workshops to get the pupils to think about career choices, and give them the experience of completing CVs and job applications.

Then in the afternoon a special ceremony was held, with the school welcoming guests from the local community.

Headteacher Hayley Walker said: "Our launch day marks a new chapter in the life of Timbertree."

"The school has undergone a tremendous journey over the past five years and we are now aiming to turn our 'good' school into an 'outstanding' one."

"We know how challenging this journey is but, with the effort and commitment of everyone at the school, we are determined to ensure we are able to achieve it."

Towards the end of the launch day just before half-term, the school put the finishing touches to its iron sculpture which had been specially commissioned for the launch.

Power cut hits homes

HUNDREDS of homes in Halesowen were hit by a power cut on Friday. Engineers were called to fix the problem and power was restored to most of the homes and businesses hit at 8.40am within an hour.

Western Power Distribution spokeswoman Stella Hayward said the cut affected 800 properties. She added it was believed the problem had been caused by a fault with an underground cable.

Among the properties affected was The Allenbrook Nursing Home, Spies Lane, where power was off for around two hours.

Bungalows plan

TWO bungalows with three parking spaces will be built on vacant land in Ellowes Road, Gornal, after councillors on Dudley Council's development control committee approved the scheme. There was a letter of support and no objections.

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Plans for new phase of revamp

PLANS for the second phase of a £1.6 million project to revamp two day centres to help them better serve the needs of residents with dementia have been lodged. Work has already begun to refurbish and redecorate Brettell Lane Day Centre, Stourbridge.

Now a revamp of Brett Young Day Centre, Halesowen, is expected to get under way in January.

Proposals for the work at the site, which caters for around 45 people, have been submitted to be considered by planners.

Dudley Council wants to turn the two centres into 'dementia gateways' to meet the specific needs of people with dementia.

It is part of a wider scheme to improve the support given to the growing number of pensioners diagnosed with the condition.

At Brett Young, a new entrance porch, activity and lounge areas will be created. A new sensory and working garden will be also be installed.

Once completed, the centre will be able to cater for more people in wheelchairs. A decision on the planning application is expected soon.

Leadership honour for homes boss

A HOUSING group worker is celebrating after winning a major industry award for his contribution to the community.

Ramesh Malhan, head of housing at Black Country Housing Group, scooped the Achiever of the Year Award at the Chartered Institute of Housing Midlands Awards.

He won the title for his outstanding leadership and commitment to the development of a new community group, A Better Blackheath Association, which aims to empower people to improve the quality of life for all residents and boost the local economy.

In just one year, Mr Malhan has successfully helped ABBA to deliver a number of initiatives including the Blackheath Festival and Talent Competition, as well as a well attended summer community event.

BCHG chief executive Amanda Tomlinson said: "We're extremely proud of Ramesh's award win which recognises his longstanding hard work."

Staff fear for jobs when spending axe falls

DUDLEY council staff are 'very afraid for their jobs' after £32million cuts were announced in the borough, say union chiefs. Borough bosses revealed last week that they need to make the savings on top of an initially-predicted £26m over the next three years after its Government funding was slashed.

Under the initial plan to save £26m, the council had proposed up to 334 job losses by 2017 but it is now feared that many more could be at risk. Andrew Maybury, secretary of the Dudley branch of Unison, said: "We have got serious concerns for our members' jobs and serious concerns for the services that they provide and, whilst we would prefer voluntary redundancies as opposed to compulsory redundancies, we have still got concerns that this would mean a reduction in the levels of service for people living in Dudley."

"People are very afraid for their jobs and feel insecure about what is going to happen to them in the future."

"These are people who have families and people have to plan for the future and pay their mortgages which they can't if they are uncertain about what is going to happen."

"We will provide support for our members in the coming weeks but it is not easy at this stage to say where these extra cuts will come and whether our members will be affected."

Council bosses have said officers will be looking 'at everything' in a bid to fill the massive shortfall in cash.

Suffered

Among the savings already identified are cuts to street cleaning, which will see residents being encouraged to hold their own litter picks, and plans to shorten the collection period for green waste to save £100,000.

Dudley Performing Arts has suffered a cut to its funding in 2013/14 of £178,000, which has led to staff being warned of a redundancy risk.

Residents spoke out over which services they would like to see escape the cuts.

Joan Buffey, aged 79, of Broadway in Norton, said: "I think the parks are important - it is something people take great pride in when living in this area."

Reginald Griffith, 65, of West Street in Stourbridge, said: "The roads around here are already terrible, and the footpaths."

Council warning that cuts will soon have big impact

TAXPAYERS in Dudley have been given a stark warning to expect more cuts to services as the authority struggles to balance its books in the face of Government cutbacks.

by Andrew Turton

Council bosses had already drawn up a tough package of savings totalling around £26 million for the next three years.

But now council leaders have revealed they will have to find up to a further £32 million of savings on top of what they had already planned.

Stark warnings were laid out in the budget report set to go before council cabinet members yesterday (Wednesday).

Dudley borough has already been stung by a £3m overspend on budgets for looking after children in care this year.

Officials say that the rising demand for services from social care has led to pressures on children's social care workloads forcing them to spend more to maintain standards.

Rapid

Other pressures predicted include spending more caring for adults with learning disabilities and dementia and an increase in tax paid out on waste going to landfill, which will top £350,000 within three years.

Rapid revisions by council officials have already started to take shape since the Chancellor's March budget delivered a blow to local authorities.

Grants from Government are being cut deeper than Dudley Council officials originally assumed - leading to hastily redrawn proposals and a fresh consultation with residents. Next year's

grants will reduce by £16.9m, which is around two per cent more than the authority had predicted.

They forecast that the revenue support grant, which is cash given from central Government to pay towards council services, will fall sharply in the next three years.

Council finance chiefs calculated that the grants will fall from £73.6m in 2014/15 to £40.2m in 2016/17, forcing a rethink on the scope of significant cuts.

Officials say spending on council services will fall by £3m over the next three years from £245m in 2014/15 to £242m by 2016/17.

But Dudley Council's total resources are predicted to plummet from £237.8m in 2014/15 to around £210m over three years.

Officials claim this will create a funding deficit gap of £32m, leading to fears that they will find savings to match the startling figure.

Fresh cuts to make up the shortfall have yet to be outlined by the authority but finance boss Councillor Pete Lowe has promised to 'leave no stone unturned' in looking to find ways of making savings and delivering services.

A total of £270,000 will be cut from maintenance of parks, open spaces and verges and there will also be less road and path maintenance.

Laura bakes her way to two national finals



Icing on the cake for Laura Nolan, who runs the Nuthouse Bakery from home, after getting through to two finals

HALESOWEN College lecturer Lolan really has got the icing on the cake - after hearing she is in the finals of two national competitions in two days.

The 39-year-old, from Brierley Hill, who was inspired to go into baking only two years ago by watching The Great British Bake Off, is now dusting off her apron in the hope of winning both contests.

If she wins the National Cupcake championship at the Cake International event at Birmingham's NEC on November 9, her victory will be announced by no less than baking legend Mary Berry.

The previous day, Laura will have competed alongside her friend and former pupil Hayley Dawood, from Stoke-on-Trent, in a live, three-hour event, also at the NEC, to decorate a selection of 20 cupcakes. "I heard I had

got through to the national championships - the creme de la creme of our profession - about a month ago," said Laura, who runs The Nuthouse Bakery at her home in Madison Avenue.

"Then last week I heard Hayley and I are shortlisted in a handful of teams of professional bakers to be in the live competition at Cake International on November 8. I squealed with delight - I was shaking and had to sit down for an hour."

Range

Laura is one of just 15 professional bakers selected from more than 350 to compete in British Baker Magazine's national cupcake championship.

The judges will be award-winning pastry chef and Waitrose consultant Will Torrent, royal wedding cake designer Fiona Cairns, Konditor and

Cook creator Gerhard Jenne and last year's winner Emily Johnson.

Laura's entry will be a 'naughty but tasteful' cake from her range entitled Old Hollywood Bachelor Party, topped with a sugary image of ruffled knickers and suspenders.

Other cakes from the range will feature in the live bake-off competition.

Laura, who was born in Zimbabwe, was a globe-trotting installer of gaming equipment, working at casinos from Hong Kong to Las Vegas, when she was bitten by the baking bug.

She enrolled on an eight-week course at the Thorns Community College, Quarry Bank - and six months later quit her job and started her own bakery at home. She now teaches bakery at Halesowen College, as well as at her own business.

NEWS in brief

Scheme aims to cut energy costs

PEOPLE worried about increasing energy prices are urged to register for a scheme which could potentially cut their bills.

Dudley Council has launched its 'big switch' which could secure discounted tariffs from energy providers if enough people sign up. It is part of a national initiative.

The more who register, the greater the opportunity for a better deal.

The scheme is free to join but there is no obligation to switch if people are not in line for a saving.

The deadline to register is November 13 with the auction on November 19.

Parking charges to go up by 10pc

CAR parking charges are set to rise in Dudley over the next three years as the council attempts to balance its books. The council raised its charges by 20 per cent in May.

Under the initially proposed budget - which will have to be amended again to clear the £34 million deficit - the council planned to generate £225,000 in parking charges over the next three years. It would mean charges would rise by a further 10 per cent.

Inquest on man dead under car

A MAN who was found dead underneath his car at work died of asphyxia, an inquest has heard.

Engineer Stephen Paul Millington, aged 53, of Hanley Close, Halesowen, was discovered by his friend and workmate Paul Bate at work in quarry Bank on October 11. Reading a statement by Mr Bate, Black Country Senior Coroner Robin Balmain said he found Mr Millington underneath his own car. The inquest was adjourned.

Cash tribute will go to hospital

THE family and friends of a father-of-two who died aged 40 after a 15 year battle against leukaemia have raised £5,000 in his memory.

The cash, in tribute to Mark Rutter, of Broad Street, Kingswinford, will go to the coronary care unit at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital. He discovered he had leukaemia only when he broke his ribs while playing football for Enville Athletic and a blood test revealed it in 1998.

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NEWS

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RHODES

PERRY, the cross-dressing pottery maker, is a national treasure and his Reith Lectures have been great. The thunderous applause that greeted him as he walked on stage in satin miniskirt and high heels says much for the twin British loves of plain speaking and eccentricity. But I couldn't help wondering how many members of the audience would be quite so thrilled if their daughter brought him home. "Mummy, Daddy, this is Grayson. Daddy, put the shotgun down."

DAMAGES of £15,000. Court costs of £100,000-plus. That's the price of silly Sally Bercow's tweet about Lord McAlpine and it should concentrate the minds of Tweetsters everywhere. But it probably won't. The Tweetosphere seems full of people who haven't a clue about the laws of libel and think they can say the most outrageous things about anybody they choose. They can't. The rules on defamation that apply to every newspaper also apply to the internet and social media. So if you wouldn't shout it from a rooftop using a megaphone, then don't tweet it, email it or stick it on your website. Ninety-nine times out of 100 your tweet alleging that someone is a money-launderer, paedophile or Nazi won't even be noticed. But the 100th time, you'll get a writ for libel and it's goodbye life savings. As the Speaker's wife put it: "Mrs Bercow wishes and hopes that as a result of this matter other Twitter users will behave more responsibly." Some hope.

AFTER 30 years of spreading squidgy unsaturated-fat goo on our toast, we are told this week that butter may actually be better for us. According to new research, saturated fats, long regarded as the enemy in the fight against obesity and heart disease, may be innocent. Refined carbohydrates and sugar are the real problem. This at least explains a puzzle I raised recently. Why was it that in the days before soft spreads were invented and we all ate butter, people were slimmer and fitter?

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Time called on pub as housing plans backed

A PUB 'surplus to requirements' will be torn down and replaced by homes, after the brewery which owns the building was given approval by Dudley planners.

Some neighbours of the Yew Tree Inn, Netherton, voiced concerns about the scheme, which they felt could impact on their quality of life.

Marstons Brewery has submitted the application to redevelop the pub in Hockley Lane, to Dudley Council's planning department.

Eleven homes would be built on the land once the pub is demolished, under the plans by the brewery.

The planning committee backed outline plans on Monday. Further details on layout, the appearance of the houses and landscaping will have to be presented at a later date.

Objection

A statement submitted with the proposal by agents Eclipse Architecture said: "The existing pub has been identified as surplus."

"The proposal is to demolish the existing public house and construct residential dwellings on the land. The site is located on the periphery of Netherton town centre with nearby facilities such as large supermarket, local shops, pubs, post office, etc, all within easy walking distance."

Notices were sent out to 34 neighbours and 15 letters of objection were received.

by Andrew Turton

Some of the complaints centred on the loss of a pub, potential harm to wildlife and the sizes of the homes relative to existing houses.

One resident said he believed the development was 'totally out of character' to the rest of the buildings in Hockley Lane.

Other residents express concern for the future of wildlife in the area.

"There are foxes, badgers, owls and numerous song birds," said one. "There are also bats in the area which are a protected species."

A letter of support has also been submitted although that also asked for wildlife habitats to be considered as the site is near Saltwells Nature Reserve.

Committee member Tim Wright said: "While I am sympathetic about the loss of this pub at the end of the day in cases like this it is up to the owner of the property what they want to do with the site."

"I can't see any planning consideration, even though I hate to see another pub go, to refuse this application."

Bags of ideas for new business



Former student Kennedy Glews has set up her own handbag-making business – Kennedy Jayne

A UNIVERSITY graduate with a passion for fashion has launched her own range of vintage inspired handbags.

Kennedy Glews, aged 23, who was one of the Portas Pilot competition winners and studies at Wolverhampton University has created her first collection of British-made handbags and cushions.

Miss Glews of Cottage Street, Kingswinford, will now display her high-end goods in a shop in the Mander Centre.

Brand

Once completing her design degree in September 2012, and embarking on the university's Speed Plus access to business programme, she entered the Portas Pilot competition run by Mary Portas.

Miss Glews' brand called Kennedy Jayne proved a hit with the judging panel.

She won £300 to expand her business and the chance to display her goods in a shop.

Her collection will be launched at the Mander Centre on Friday.

Owners advised to check pets teeth

A VETERINARY practice is warning pet owners not to risk their animals' health by ignoring their teeth.

White Cross Vets, Tiv-dale, has recorded a significant increase in the number of pets treated for oral hygiene issues, which staff say could be prevented.

David Hough, clinic director from the Regent Road practice, said: "Many pet owners simply don't understand the importance of good dental hygiene and as a result their pets are suffering and often end up requiring lots of treatment to rectify the problems."

"In the UK many people don't view their own dental hygiene as being particularly important so we have a huge educational job to do when it comes to pets' teeth. Regular check-ups for pets are a must to avoid serious consequences to their health."

He said: "We recently treated a dog that had horrendous dental disease, he was only five-years-old and unfortunately it was too late to salvage any of his teeth."

"We assessed each tooth on an individual basis and had to remove them all."

"A dog should have its teeth brushed every day and there are plenty of products on the market like chicken flavoured toothpaste that can make the process appealing."

"It's also important to feed your pet a diet with proven dental benefits."

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Baggies fans best behaved in region

BAGGIES' football fans are the best behaved among West Midlands teams, according to the latest figures.

Across the region more than 200 were arrested throughout last season, with West Brom supporters topping the list with just 10 troublemakers.

Wolves fans top the list with 65 fans arrested, followed by Birmingham City, with 60. Forty-three Walsall fans were arrested – one more than Aston Villa, which clocked up 42.

The Express & Star obtained the data through a Freedom of Information request from West Midlands Police.

Rise

The figures show that the 220 arrests made in the 2012/13 season include accusations of sexual offences, possession of an offensive weapon and assault on a police officer.

The figures present a rise in the numbers, with Home Office data showing 192 arrests were made involving the same five clubs in the 2011/2012 season.

West Midlands Police says troublemakers are dealt with strongly and that 'they will not be tolerated'.

Despite a rise in figures, the number of banning orders involving the clubs has fallen, with a total of 196 in place last season compared with 211 in the 11/12 season.

Jail term suspended for nephew in tragic attack

Joshua jumps at big chance



Joshua Hunter, aged 16, who has been selected to represent British Gymnastics

A TEENAGE athlete who is making round trips of up to four hours every week to hone his skills at training facilities up and down the country, has been selected to represent British Gymnastics.

Joshua Hunter, of Attlee Close, Tividale, is an elite tumbler and his ability has seen him selected to represent British Gymnastics at the World Championships in Bulgaria next month.

The 16-year-old Dudley College sport student has been developing his skills by travelling to Revolution Gymnastics Club, Harborne, as well as a gym in Coventry and even as far as Basingstoke where he can use

a full-size track to practice his routines. Joshua, who previously attended Ormiston Sandwell Community Academy, said when he heard that he was selected he was 'jumping around, screaming in excitement'.

He said: "It is really exciting. My mum, Claudette, is really proud."

His coach Robert Owen added: "I was over the moon for him."

In order to make the trip to Bulgaria on November 10, Mr Owen said Joshua needs to raise £1,900 to fund travel, accommodation and his GB kit. To make a donation visit the website www.revolutiongymclub.co.uk or call 0121 249 2210.

A NEPHEW whose uncle was killed during a brawl after the pair attacked another man at his Halesowen home has avoided an immediate jail term for his part in the trouble. Mitchell While and his uncle David Carpenter had attacked Ian Swinburne at his home in Graham Road, on February 3, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

Mr Swinburne had stabbed Carpenter to death in self defence during the brawl. He was originally charged with murder, but the Crown Prosecution Service dropped it.

Mr Nicholas Burn, prosecuting, told the court that Mr Carpenter had been in a relationship with Nicola Bennett, but it had ended around last Christmas.

"The deceased had discovered that Nicola Bennett was seeing Mr Swinburne, and that Mr Swinburne had moved in," Mr Burn said. The court heard that on February 3 there had been 'heated' telephone conversations between Mr Carpenter and Miss Bennett, and in the end Mr Swinburne had become involved.

Mr Burn said there was tension between the two parties, and at around 9pm While and Mr Carpenter decided to travel in a taxi to Mr Swinburne and Miss Bennett's home.

He said: "The two men started banging on the door of the house. The lady of the house decided then to contact the police."

The men then forced their way into the house. The court heard how the fight spilled towards the conservatory area, at which point Mr Swinburne grabbed the bread knife which was on the side in the kitchen.

Mr Burn said: "The men were engaged in significant violence and it's clear during the course of the struggle that the knife was used to inflict injuries, which the crown prosecution service accepts is equivalent to self defence."

Reading from Miss Bennett's statement, Mr Burn added: "Ian looked absolutely petrified. I felt they were going to kill us. 'I was



Mitchell While – involved in fatal struggle

so scared I thought I was going to die." The court heard it was during the struggle that While punched and bit Mr Swinburne.

While aged 29, of Bodenham Road, Brandhall, Oldbury, pleaded guilty to using threatening words and behaviour and common assault. His lawyer said his client's life had 'changed forever'. Judge Robin Onions told While he had the opportunity to stop his uncle, and said: "You knew what was in his mind, you knew he was bent on violence and you went with him."

He gave him a four months prison term suspended for 18 months, supervision for 12 months which includes an alcohol treatment requirement. He was also ordered to complete 150 hours of unpaid work, pay £350 compensation and £350 costs.

NEWS in brief

Tree of Life to be launched in town

NAMES and sponsorship are needed for Blackheath's annual Tree of Life fundraiser.

The 12th annual event in Blackheath will be launched next month, when residents can sponsor the name of a deceased loved one to be displayed on information boards across the town. A cherry tree at the Parish Church of St Paul's, on Long Lane, will be lit up.

The initiative from Blackheath Business and Community Association is donating proceeds to The Bridges Support Service, which provides services to cancer patients.

Sponsored names cost £5, and registrations can be made with Mary Docker personally at the town's market, or by writing to Unit 2, Blackheath Market, 65 Birmingham Road, Blackheath, Rowley Regis, B65 0HS.

Still lots to 'sea' and do at centre

A PROGRAMME of half-term activities is continuing at Dudley Leisure Centre.

The centre in Wellington Road is holding sea themed sessions during the school holidays. The pool will be filled with a large inflatable shark aqua run today (Thursday) from 1.45 to 2.45pm.

Sessions taking place in the pool are suitable for children aged eight and over who can swim a minimum of 25m.

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NEWS FEATURE

IN MY VIEW

WITH
MARK
ANDREWS

THE local council in Leighton Buzzard has ordered a circus to remove its posters following a complaint from a member of the public who was afraid of clowns. Presumably there will be a similar ban on election posters, then. Because there are plenty of people afraid of those clowns.

THERE was the usual weather warning on the BBC Midlands news on Monday morning, after the region was hit by a bit of wind and a few hours of rain.

"People are advised to only travel in the rush hour if they really have to," was the solemn message from the newsreader. Only if they really have to? As opposed to all the people who head out at 7am on a wet October morning because they fancy a drive?

The only reason anybody goes out in the rush hour is because they have to, and the BBC and Met Office should just come clean, and say exactly what they mean. Which is: "If you work in certain public sector jobs, you can take the day off."

FIGHTING back from accusations that Wolverhampton is a city in decline, town planners unveiled their latest vision for the Princess Street area. Which looks remarkably like Princess Street does now, only with a traffic ban.

So let's get this right. The best way to bring people into our ailing towns and cities is by making them more difficult to get to.

And there was me thinking that the reason why shoppers are flocking to out-of-town retail parks is because people can drive right up to the shops, and stay for as long as they want, without fear of being hassled by zealous officials in ridiculous uniforms.

Well here's a mad suggestion. Why don't our town planners take a leaf out of the out-of-town centres, and try making it easier for motorists?

For example, instead of pedestrianising Princess Street, why don't they get rid of some of the wide footpaths, and create a few extra spaces where people can park outside the shops?

And why not create a bit of extra free, short-stay parking, in some of the existing pedestrianised areas? For what it's worth, I think some of the flak that Wolverhampton has been coping over the last few months is grossly unfair.

More than that, I am a passionate supporter of our town centres, and think the trend towards out-of-town shopping is one of the most depressing and corrosive changes to our communities over the last 20 or so years.

But when we have local authorities who think the answer is to keep traffic away from our towns, it really is hard to see how they can fight back.



Staff Sim Moman, Jayne Budd, Shaun Peace, Alex Wynn and Peter Croxford try the escalator



The Tesco store, as seen from Stourbridge ring road, has a cafe that will images of local landmarks



Tesco finance chief Laurie McIlwee was brought up in the town and says the store will be an attraction

Ready to check out a £50m superstore

The long wait is over and now Tesco staff prepare to welcome the first customers, as **LOUISE JEW** found out

IT HAS transformed the landscape of a town centre.

A crumbling multi-storey car park and ageing shopping centre have been consigned to the past, and in their place this £50 million superstore now sits – the town's most striking new landmark.

Since the explosive demolition of the old car park in Bell Street, Stourbridge, and the start of the work to knock down the Crown Centre in April last year, contractors have made quick work of creating the new building which can be seen by anyone driving along the ring road.

Having started with a huge mound of rubble, they were soon building the foundations and putting in place the steel frame.

Residents and visitors have eagerly watched as the Tesco Extra store in Stourbridge has taken shape with the work being heralded as the start of a new era for the town.

Milestone

As well as the supermarket, there are shop units which developers are busy trying to fill in a bid to bring more people into the town centre.

And now another milestone in the project is about to be celebrated with the Tesco store getting ready to open today (Thursday).

It is now a hive of activity as excited staff stock the shelves ready for their first customers. Light, bright, airy and modern, with wide walkways around the aisles and a traveller moving walkway from the two-storey underground car park to the main and mezzanine floors, the Stourbridge shop is set to open next.

Linked into the redeveloped Crown Centre, housing the Town Hall and Stourbridge Library, shoppers have



Manager Sadie Griffiths believes the £50 million Tesco superstore will become a big part in the community

recently been able to sneak a glimpse of what is to come through the atrium entrance off the clock square.

The Tesco cafe – with a large purple wall decorated with images of local landmarks, the Town Hall, King Edward VI sixth form college, the old public library, Stourbridge Lion steam locomotive makers Foster, Raistrick and Co and the Red House glass cone – is in the atrium.

Step through into the store itself and the aisles are abuzz, as the 350 new staff – just under a third of them taken off the dole to carve out new careers with the supermarket giant – stack shelves with

non-perishable goods. Bakers are testing out their ovens, sending the aroma of freshly cooked bread and cakes around the cavernous, 65,000 sq ft store.

Nineteen tills and 10 self-service checkouts are ready to take customers' cash – and customer service manager Jane Bannister, aged 45, of Cross Street, Kingswinford, has already been forging links with local community groups, including the police and the Street Pastors.

The characters that townspeople will come to know as they shop there are

eager to tell their stories. For 19-year-old Shaun Peace it is his first ever job – and he is 'delighted and very proud' after previously being 'rejected' by Asda and Argos.

He has a new word in his vocabulary – 'rumbling', which means organising the products and helping customers – as he immerses himself in his role as customer assistant in the dairy department.

"I had been on Jobseekers' Allowance for a year and was very frustrated," said Shaun, of Witley Avenue, Halesowen.

"I love my new uniform and, with it being such a well-established company, it gives me the step I need to progress maybe to a team leader or manager one day."

Peter Croxford, aged 63, of Croftwood Road, Stourbridge, had spent 40 years in the retail car trade but was made redundant at the end of last year – and now he has retrained as a fishmonger at Tesco.

Started

"Because I'm used to the banter and customer service of the car trade the nice lady at my Tesco interview thought I'd make a good fishmonger," he said.

In charge of it all is 47-year-old store manager Sadie Griffiths, of Halesowen Road, Cradley Heath.

The mother-of-four, who started as a cashier at the old Dudley Tesco 18 years ago and has managed stores in Stafford and Telford, said of the new shop: "The wows for me are the atrium, the cafe, the Florence and Fred clothing department and the range of produce."

"It has fitted into the regeneration of the local library and town hall, so it feels more like part of the community."

The new store is close to home for Tesco chief financial officer Laurie McIlwee, who was brought up in the town and whose parents, Jim, aged 89 and Joan, 82, still live in Pedmore.

He said: "Having this store on the edge of High Street, with parking below, will be a real attraction to bring people back to the town and use the other shops too."

THROUGH THE YEARS

1983...

THE US government was seeking to build a £20m military hospital for the exclusive use of American casualties in the event of a nuclear war.

The proposals for RAF Cosford sparked fury among residents. A report by Washington's Institute of Policy Studies said 15 new specialist hospitals were needed because US military planners were preparing for a protracted war in Europe.

Vice-chairman of Albrighton Parish Council, Councillor Malcolm Pate, said: "If such facilities are to be built, they should be put in use for local people."

WOLVES were given until the end of October to pay off debts inherited by the previous administration – or face being expelled from the Football League. The club had been saved from liquidation by a consortium fronted by Derek Dougan, on condition that the new owners paid unsecured creditors 60p in the pound.

1993...

SCHOOLTEACHER Andrew Bramwell rued the day he won a £20,000 conservatory. Eighteen months later the conservatory was still not finished, and Mr Bramwell, from Aldridge, said there had been a catalogue of blunders with inadequate foundations, no damp-proof course and faulty brickwork.

A PETITION signed by 1,500 shoppers and market stallholders was on its way to Environment Secretary John Gummer in protest of his plans to strip Wolverhampton Council of its ancient markets charter.

A TEENAGE tearaway responsible for more than 160 crimes in less than a year went on the run as magistrates were due to sentence him. The 15-year-old boy from Halesowen gave his escorts the slip at Dudley youth court.

2003...

THE age of supersonic travel was over, after Concorde made its last voyage from New York to London. Jodie Kidd, Jeremy Clarkson, Sir David Frost and Joan Collins were among the stars on board the flight.

RADIO One DJ Chris Moyles provoked the ire of Kidderminster after branding the town 'a sad place where nothing ever happens'.

The DJ made the comments after it came third in a listeners' poll regarding where he should switch the Christmas lights on.

TORY MP Derek Conway plunged the party into chaos after he formally asked for a vote of confidence in leader Iain Duncan Smith. Mr Duncan Smith challenged his opponents to come up with the required number of names to spark a vote, or 'push off'.

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LETTERS

Deep regret as club closing down

IT is with great sorrow to let people know Woodcross Club will shortly be closing down.

We cannot keep up with the ever-increasing costs of heating, lighting, insurance, alarm systems, and all the other utility bills, amounting now to more than £5,000 per month, without wages and supplies.

The club was formed in 1945 by a small group of men shortly after the war. I myself, have been at the club since 1957, during that time, we have run senior and junior football teams, have been well-established throughout

the Midlands for our crib/ dominoes, darts and snooker teams as well as many stars appearing at the club and then going on to fame.

We have raised large sums of money for various charities over the years and once myself and my long-standing friend John 'The Humph' Humphries raised more than £6,000 for the children's hospice with a ladies night and sale of 'special badges'.

The charities will certainly miss the club. I have tried so hard and pulled out all the stops to keep it going, but this time I fear the worst. The smoking ban

has also had a massive affect upon the club. Also we had cellar extraction equipment stolen by metal thieves, and insurance refused to pay for replacement, which is now with the ombudsman. But, this is incurring substantial losses due to the 'cooling' of beers, etc.

We can only apologise to those who booked parties at the club. Thanking our loyal and sincere staff and small amount of members who have supported the club.

BARRY PAYTON - SECRETARY
Woodcross Club
Coseley

Renaissance 'not a reality'

WHILE I was saddened to hear of the imminent closure of the Co-operative store in Dudley town centre I was not surprised, and for two reasons. First, the store appeared to believe it could survive in isolation.

Its pricing policy was frankly ludicrous, charging 35 per cent more for the exact same items as sold by a competitor. I feel particularly sorry for the staff many of whom have been working at the store in its various guises for years.

Second, however those charged with regenerating the town centre must take some of the blame. They are full of fine words but appear utterly impotent when it comes to actions. Since the grandiose plans were announced to spruce up the market place and so on WH Smith and now the Co-Op have left the town.

It's all very well Ian Austin MP appealing to the Co-op to have a rethink on the basis that the town is at some unspecified point going to have some sort of 'renaissance' but 'jam tomorrow' is not something anybody can include in a viable business plan. We are left wondering when these changes are to leave the drawing board and become reality?

ELLIE SHAW, Forest Road, Dudley

Think before closing clinic

I AM concerned to read that the Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group is planning to close the walk-in medical centre at the Holly Hall Clinic. The justification is apparently that patients would prefer to see their GP but, as I am sure most of us know, that isn't always possible.

Last year I contracted a bad attack of shingles over a weekend and was able to see a doctor at Holly Hall on the Sunday. He prescribed some medication which I collected from a pharmacy the same day and was thus able to begin treatment immediately. Even so, I was flat on my back in bed for about a week - and most people consider me a strong and fit person. Had I had to wait until the Monday to see my GP I have no doubt that the delay would have made the illness even worse. I do hope the group will carefully consider what provision can be made for cases such as mine before going ahead with this closure.

NICK TAYLOR, Stourbridge

LETTERS to the Editor

POST

Halesowen Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

E-MAIL

Dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

Hippodrome just an eyesore for town

DUDLEY Hippodrome will never be anything but an out-of-date eyesore, best viewed through the smogs of its heyday. It detracts from and prevents proper development of the Zoo and Castle.

It is time Dudley MBC grasped the nettle and stopped indulging the fantasies of the 'Friends of Dudley Hippodrome' and demolished it.

The Friends have had ample time to put forward credible proposals and have failed.

Other than words, what is Lenny Henry prepared to contribute? He must be a rich man, come to that, how much are the Friends prepared to contribute?

If they are so confident it will be financially viable, then let them underwrite the cost of rescue and running.

Dudley Council has limited financial resources but several unique geological and historical attractions and funding should go to the integration of these sites and the development of Dudley as a tourist attraction.

Such a programme would create jobs and generate income instead of money being thrown down the money pit that a rescued Hippodrome would inevitably be.

BRIAN OSBORNE, Dudley

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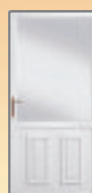


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NEWS

Work to restore beauty spot canal gets started

RESTORATION work on a canal embankment to help preserve it for generations to come is getting under way at a Grade I listed beauty spot in Halesowen.

Phased coppicing is taking place along the old Dudley No 2 canal at The Leasowes nature reserve.

Engineers are working with wardens to advise them on the work, which will be done in sections, one third at a time, over the next two to three years.

The coppicing, which is common practice in woodland management, will be to include mature trees being crown reduced and one or two medium sized sycamore trees will be removed, as these are weed species and not native to the site.

The remainder to be coppiced are thin saplings, although these will not be killed as the root systems will remain alive to help secure the soil structure inside the bank.

The site's management team will host a walk to explain about work taking place and answer any questions.

Opportunity

Councillor Tracy Wood, cabinet member for environment and culture, said: "This is an opportunity for people with an interest in the future plans of The Leasowes to find out first hand about the essential works taking place along the canal and how the development will benefit the area."

The Leasowes is listed as Grade I on English Heritage's register of parks and gardens of special historic interest in England. It was designed by poet William Shenstone.

A £1.8 million renovation project started in 1998. A pool was also restored last year by the Friends of The Leasowes group after it received £5,500 from the Big Lottery Fund Awards for All.

The walk will take place on Saturday starting at 10am. People should meet at the wardens' base, The Leasowes car park, off Mucklow Hill. For more information call 01384 814642.

Sister's trek raises funds



Helen Beasley on the Great Wall of China which walked to raise cash for charity

A WOMAN'S trek along the Great Wall of China inspired by her sister's battle with a crippling disease - has helped her to net a staggering £6,457 for charity.

Helen Beasley, aged 50, of Romsley, near Halesowen, completed 40 miles of the wall last month in aid of the Multiple Sclerosis Trust.

It was part of a series of events organised by Mrs Beasley for a charity dear to her family's heart, because her sister, Jane Dunham, from Kidderminster, is crippled with multiple sclerosis.

Mrs Beasley, a mother-of-two, started raising cash for the trust when she joined her daughter, Laura on a skydive for her 21st birthday two years ago.

That effort brought in £1,200, which was further boosted by a quiz, a fashion show and a summer concert - the trek has now raised the total.

Miss Dunham, aged 56, said: "The trek was tough going and she has done very well, both to complete it and with the amount she has raised - she was top fundraiser for the trust."

Mrs Beasley said: "I'd seen the China Trek advertised, but I didn't have the confidence to do it."

"But I had my 50th birthday last year and thought, 'life begins at 50'."

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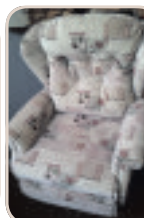
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MEMORY LANE



Picture by Mr W H Hickey courtesy of Dudley Archives & Local History Service

Pitman Street, 1959. John notes: "Our house would be, right, about four houses up. You can see the yard about halfway up on the left where Stephen and I had many adventures."



The Caves football team. John writes that 'my father is second from the left. I am in the centre front of the line-up holding the ball. This is one of the teams my father managed. I later played for this very team in the Dudley & Cradley Heath League.'



Picture by Mr W H Hickey courtesy of Dudley Archives & Local History Service

The flats at Hillcrest Road, Kates Hill. John says: "We lived in the first block, top left. It appears the lamp-post has the remnants of a rope swing. I have no idea who the little girl is but she would be around the same age as me, maybe she was someone we played games with?"

Moving tales of childhood poverty while world enjoyed Swinging 60s

THE 1960s may have been swinging and affluent for many but for a significant minority they were years of poverty.

John Fisher was one of those who experienced poverty at first hand and he has written a moving yet unsentimental account of the problems he and his siblings faced in the Dudley in the 1960s.

Finding Thomas is the true story of three young brothers living in the midst of squalor, neglect and deprivation and who were then suddenly separated, seemingly forever. Although they were torn apart, John held fast to a dream of finding his younger brother Thomas.

It was a search that spanned four decades and which 'uncovered dark secrets, unbelievable discoveries and much more' than he anticipated. John honestly tells of the difficult childhood he had with his parents. They often fought and sep-

by Carl Chinn

arated, with the result that he and Stephen, the next brother to him, were placed in foster homes.

However, in September 1962 their parents were reconciled. They were living at 25 Pitman Street, in Kates Hill, Dudley, whence they had been moved after their eviction from a modern flat in Hillcrest Road.

John explains how he and Stephen were discharged from care and allowed to go back to their parents and their baby brother Thomas. The next 12 months were to be the most traumatic of his life.

John takes up the story: "Pitman Street was without any shadow of a doubt a slum. One side of the street was full of empty houses, vacated many years before. The fact that we had been evicted from the flat and placed here was I think a last resort on behalf of the council and Social Services to house us and keep the family together. "The house was a

two bedroom property. All the houses were joined together, about 30 each side, running top to bottom of the street.

"At the rear they were separated into blocks of four. Our block had an entrance at the rear, which came in really handy at times, especially if the truancy officer called, we could scarp out the back.

Derelict

"No electricity existed in the house, light was obtained by means of lighting gas mantles situated on the walls. The only form of entertainment came by means of a radio, which I assume was battery-powered. The house was cold and damp, a miserable place to live. My mother, father and Thomas shared one bedroom, Stephen and I the other, even these didn't have doors.

"One day Stephen and I went into one of the derelict houses opposite. We found our way to the wash-house and we climbed up onto the board covering the basin and got

hold of a piece of string. Above the basin was a kind of beam which I presume was for hanging the washing on when it came out of the tub.

"I tied the piece of string to the beam and made a noose from the other end. At some point Stephen tried to jump off the basin onto the floor but got caught up in the noose around his neck, the board gave way underneath him and he hung precariously swinging with the noose around his neck, going blue in the face.

"I realised there was little I could do, or maybe I just simply panicked, anyway, fortunately at that time my mother was at home. I ran across the street to tell her what had happened.

"She ran across to rescue him and pull him down. Had she not been at home that day, which would not have been uncommon, I feel certain Stephen would not be here today.

"Adjacent to the house there

was a disused yard. One day we decided to climb over and investigate. We came across a number of boxes, being inquisitive we decided to remove one or two and take a look inside.

"Having got them open we discovered they contained hundreds of bullets, bright brass coloured shells. Anyway, being totally naive we took them to an area away from the house and began to hit the ends of them with bricks, obviously to see if they were 'live'.

"Someone must have seen us in the yard nicking this stuff and the police arrived. They questioned us as to where we got these bullets from and removed them. I never did discover if they were 'live' or not, I guess had the police not arrived when they did we might have found out!"

● *Finding Thomas* by John Fisher is published by History Into Print at £10.95. See also www.brewin books.com



John as a two-year old. He has written a moving account of life in Dudley during the 1960s

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NEWS

Business as usual at JB's despite appeal setback

Widower raises funds



Gurcharan Singh Bedi, right, with Chris Barron, White House Cancer Support manager, at the centre in Ednam Road

A DUDLEY widower has helped to generate £2,000 for a cancer charity in memory of his late wife.

Gurcharan Singh Bedi, of Brierley Hill, sold 800 raffle tickets for White House Cancer Support (WHCS).

Mr Bedi has been raising money for the charity for five years in memory of his late wife, Surjeet Kaur Bedi.

She died in 2008 after a battle against breast cancer and was a regular visitor to the charity in Ednam Road. Every year since her death Mr Bedi has organised fundraising events, because he

wants to give something back to the centre for all its support.

Mrs Bedi helped run the family shop Bedi Store in Church Street, Brierley Hill. In 1991, she was commended for her bravery after using a pair of scissors to frighten off an armed robber in the shop.

WHCS sold more than 5,800 tickets, with more than 800 of those sold by Mr Bedi who presented the charity with a cheque for £406.

White House manager Chris Barron said: "We are very grateful for the support of Mr Bedi."

For more information on the charity, call 01384 231232.

THE defiant boss of legendary Dudley nightclub JB's will carry on hosting functions despite having his appeal for plans to operate as a banqueting and conference centre thrown out.

Now owners of the venue - who council chiefs say are operating outside planning guidelines - have vowed to remain open.

The rock club, famed for launching the careers of bands and artists, was taken over by businessman Ramesh Ahir after it had entered administration in 2010.

Mr Ahir reopened the venue, in Castle Hill, 12 months ago following a six-figure revamp to transform the club into a venue hosting wedding receptions and functions.

But his plans for an expansion were scuppered when a change-of-use application to allow the nightclub to be used for banquets and conferences was turned down by Dudley Council's planning department in February.

Mr Ahir also lost a subsequent appeal through the Planning Inspectorate in Bristol which agreed with concerns the club did not have use of its own car park.

Bosses had hoped to use the Dudley Zoo pay and display car park behind the nightclub used by patrons to JB's previously.

But zoo chief executive Peter Suddock ruled this out saying no agreement was in place and the car park was fenced off with limited opening hours.

Mr Ahir has maintained the club would stay open to host functions - claiming previous planning guidelines allowed them to hold a range of events. Councillor Judy Foster, said this would be investigated.

Motorist hits lamp post

A MOTORIST suffered suspected back injuries as his car hit a lamp post in Halesowen. The accident happened at the junction of Halesowen Road and Narrow Lane, near Quinton Cemetery last week. Firefighters cut the roof off the Nissan Micra to free the driver, who was taken to Birmingham's Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

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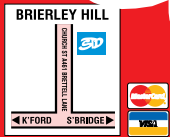
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**CLUB NEWS**Club not
a-verse
to poetry**WORDSLEY M
TWG**

THE October meeting was opened by chairman for the day Wendy Lloyd who welcomed all attending.

The minutes of the previous meeting, prepared by secretary Liz Moseley were signed and Josie Bunn gave the treasurer's report.

The Federation carol service is on December 14 at St Thomas' Church, Market Street, Stourbridge and St Georges Day event on April 24 next year.

The Lunch Club will meet at The Glass Works, Wordsley, on November 4 and the Christmas Meal is booked at the Himley Hotel for December 2.

Barbara Taylor gave details of theatre outings - Guys & Dolls at The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster and Me & My Girl at Brierley Hill Civic Hall in November.

The guild will arrange a 'chocolate prize every time' tombola at the Community Centre Christmas Bazaar on December 7.

For the social part of the morning, varied selection of poems and verse were read by Betty Taylor, Liz Hubbard, Pat Hadley and Josie Bunn. Humorous stories were read by Rosemary Skidmore who also led a short bingo session followed by a quiz.

The next meeting is on November 18 at Wordsley Green Community Centre at 10am. George Hook will talk about 'Mother of Pearl'.

Guest looks back
at events of 1937**KINGSWINFORD &
DISTRICT HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

THE October meeting saw the return of local historian John Sparry. His talk was on 'Interesting Events of 1937'.

He reminded everyone of the Hindenburg disaster in May when 35 passengers and crew died, the introduction of the 999 emergency system first introduced in the London area and of course the abdication of Edward VIII that led to his marriage in this year to Wallis Simpson. This reminded people of the meetings of Edward and Mrs Simpson at nearby Himley Hall. The Coronation of George VI took place on May 12 1937.

In November of that year, George Eyston's land speed record of more than 311mph was achieved in 'Thunderbolt', and for the work on the car, Bill Sargent, who lived opposite to where the Community Centre now is, received the BEM.

The next meeting is on Monday November 4 at 7.30pm when Keith Cattell will present 'Light Fantastic - 1,000 Years of Stained Glass'.

All are welcome at the Community Centre, High Street, Kingswinford. Details from Ron Julian 01384 295848.



John Sparry was October's guest speaker

Insight into role of TV extra

**QUARRY
BANK E TWG**

THERE were 27 members and one visitor at the October meeting. All received a sincere welcome.

The meeting progressed as usual with the reading and signing of the minutes of the previous month's meeting.

The financial report was also given.

The menu for the Christmas dinner at The Talbot

Hotel, Stourbridge, was passed round and members noted their choice from the very varied menu.

The speaker was Shirley Jones, intriguingly entitled 'Beyond the Stars'.

The stars in question were off the television, and

the talk gave an insight into the role played by 'extras'.

Mrs Jones was thanked for her most entertaining talk. The meeting concluded as usual with the serving of tea and biscuits.

The next meeting, on November 19, will consist of a social evening with a Christmas flavour including carols and a bring and buy sale.

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Dating

The star-studded event will also welcome the first ever episodes of Take Me Out Live, hosted by the king of dating, Paddy McGuinness. Fancy a modelling future for yourself? Look out for casting opportunities as the big names in fashion scout the crowds for emerging talent.

The Chronicle series has teamed up with Clothes Show Live to offer 10 lucky readers the chance to win a pair of tickets. If you're not a winner you can still buy tickets. Call 0844 5811 256 or visit clothesshowlive.com

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HOW TO ENTER

Simply answer this:
What is the name of the fashion theatre?

Send answer on a postcard with name, address and contact number to Clothes Competition, Chronicle series (editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: November 7. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final.

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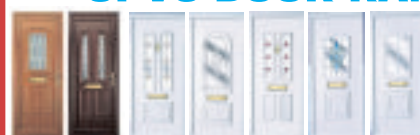
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NEWS

Mosque plan for former church gets thrown out

Students draw for peace



Students Benjy Johnson and Daisy Narrowmore with Doves for Peace founder Dorothy Claxton and head teacher Clive Nutting

STUDENTS in Wollaston have lent their artistic skills to a project raising awareness of the impact of war by sketching pictures of doves.

Dozens of children at Ridgewood High School drew the birds as part of former teacher Dorothy Claxton's Doves for Peace campaign.

The project has gained national appeal with support from UNICEF and has seen celebrities Stephen Fry, Sir Bob Geldof and Andy Murray also draw the doves.

By getting world attention, Mrs Claxton hopes to raise the awareness of children affected by war, while also promoting peace.

Mrs Claxton said: "Doves for Peace was established to raise awareness of the plight of the mil-

lions of innocent children caught up in conflicts of war around the world. "I need lots of spontaneous sketches of doves from high profile people, many of whom may not be artists.

"The drawings do not have to be polished works of art - it's the taking part that counts."

Stourbridge MP Margot James has also joined in by donating her picture of a dove.

She said: "The Doves for Peace project is a fantastically creative way to raise awareness and money for children who are the victims of war and I was more than happy to lend my support to Dorothy's initiative by drawing my own dove at Ridgewood High School."

PLANS to turn a former Victorian Methodist church in Old Hill into a mosque and community hub have been rejected due to concerns over a lack of parking.

Almost 200 people had objected to the plans by the Old Hill Masjid and Community Group to change the use of the building in Halesowen Road.

And at a meeting of Sandwell's planning committee, members refused the application after a report from the borough's highways department highlighted concerns that plans did not include sufficient parking at the site.

The community group had wanted to transform the vacant building as its current base, in Highgate Road, is no longer big enough.

Worried

However, the application received 187 written objections on grounds which included noise and disturbance, insufficient car parking and lack of consultation with the community on the proposal.

The council's head of highways has also objected saying the site did not make suitable provision for off road car parking.

Councillor Susan Downing, vice chairman of Sandwell's planning committee, said: "We decided to refuse the plan on the grounds laid out by officers in the report."

"There were also objections from the owner of a neighbouring set of flats who was worried about the impact of the mosque on his properties."

The Victorian property has been vacant for two years.

Store donates costumes

A SUPERMARKET has donated Halloween costumes to a charity group supporting children with Down's Syndrome. Sainsbury's in Blackheath gave the costumes to its charity partner Up and Downs. It was founded by Halesowen pair Jemma Sagar and Joanna Dutton.

Queen's award fit for Jean



Fitness instructor Jean Hughes with her daughter Su Handford and son-in-law Paul

SHE has run exercise classes for four decades and raised more than £115,000 for charity - and now Jean Hughes has been honoured by the Queen.

Jean has been awarded the British Empire Medal in the Queen's Birthday Honours for her dedication to the community and for her work raising money for charities.

She was presented with the medal by Lord-Lieutenant Paul Chandrasekharan Sabapathy CBE at a ceremony at Wordsley Community Centre last, in front of friends and family.

But she is not the first person in her family to receive a national accolade. She will join her daughter, Su Handford aged 53, who received a Queen's Police Medal in 2010, and her son-in-law Paul Handford, 55, who received an MBE in 2006. Both received

the commendations for their long service with West Midlands Police, which between them totalled more than 60 years in the force.

Su said: "She has always said it's for the group and not just for herself but without her there wouldn't be a group."

"I was so proud when I heard I was going to receive my award from the Queen and I'm just as proud of my mum - it has been a long time coming."

The 78-year-old has run her keep fit class at the centre in Wordsley Green for 41 years and currently has more than 100 women attending three classes each week.

Mrs Hughes, who lives with husband Ray in Kingswinford, said before the event: "I'm very excited to be receiving the medal. When I first started out I never thought I would be involved in it for so long."

Prison for drug addict with string of crimes

A 'CHRONIC' heroin addict whose drug use turned him into a prolific offender has been jailed for three years.

James Gregory, of High Street, Lye, had 20 previous convictions involving 63 offences before his latest crime spree, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

On April 12 he did not attend meetings with probation staff and broke the terms of a two year suspended jail sentence imposed for beating up a love rival in June 2012.

Then the 30-year-old exchanged £500 of stolen tools for £45 at Cash Converters, Stourbridge, on August 2.

Shortly afterwards staff were alerted to be on the look out for the property and informed police who revealed the tools had been taken from a flat in High Street, Lye, Miss Blondelle Thompson, prosecuting, said.

Next he left a tell-tale spot of blood after cutting himself while breaking into a caravan on a business park in Lye, the court was told. DNA checks confirmed it was his blood. When he was arrested on October 17 he was in possession of nine wraps of heroin and also admitted having previously had crack and methadone.

Mr Simon Hanns, defending, said: "He has been a chronic heroin addict for a long time."

Gregory admitted handling stolen property, breaching a court order, possessing drugs and burglary.

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NEWS

Action group digging in to fight for allotments

Sci fi-re night from Hall



Hoping for a bonfire event that is from another galaxy are Ben Cockett, Councillor Tracy Wood and Jane Bannister, from Tesco

ORGANISERS of one of the region's biggest fireworks displays are promising this year's sci-fi spectacular will be out of this world.

The Himley Hall bonfire attracted more than 20,000 people last year and there are hopes to draw similar crowds again this time, with a show set to the music from some of science fiction's greatest films and programmes, including Doctor Who, Iron Man and Flash Gordon.

Gates to the event, which is organised by Dudley Council and sponsored by Tesco's new store in Stourbridge, will open at 4.30pm on Saturday November 9.

A giant bonfire will be lit at

7.45pm with the fireworks display starting at 8.30pm. Visitors will also be able to enjoy the thrill of the fair.

Councillor Tracy Wood, said: "The Himley Bonfire is a real spectacle and this year's show looks set to be better than ever."

"We always draw in thousands of people and I am sure the 2013 theme will be very popular."

Tickets are £9 for adults, £4.50 for juniors and senior citizens, while under-5s get in free. A family ticket for two adults and two children is £23, while car parking is £3.

A free bus service will be available from Dudley, Coesley, Sedgley, Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill, Halesowen and Stourbridge.

MEMBERS of a Dudley action group are prepared to dig in to demand land on a former school and college site should be made into allotments.

Dudley Council says it would cost about £125,000 to make part of the site safe following the collapse of the cellars of an old house that used to stand on the Longlands site, off Brook Street, Stourbridge.

It says there are also legal issues about creating allotments there. Longlands Action Group spokesman John Milner, a professional magician who lives in Brook Street, said: "People in this area are crying out for allotments."

"So we are continuing to campaign for at least some of the land behind the Longlands campus to be used for allotments."

"It has been suggested that land there could become community gardens - but we wouldn't be happy with that because it would attract people going behind houses."

The former Longlands School later became part of Stourbridge College, with some of the land used as a football pitch.

The college transferred its creative arts department to a new £12 million complex in Brierley Hill two years ago and the Longlands buildings have been empty since.

The council still owns a football pitch next to the former campus and the rest of the land belongs to Greenfield Primary School.

Dudley Councillor Gaye Partridge, said: "If the land was to be used for allotments there are a number of technical legal and statutory issues that need to be resolved."

Car set on fire in road

FIREFIGHTERS were called after a car was set on fire and rolled into the middle of a road in Dudley. A crew from Cradley Heath was called to Edinburgh Road, Netherton last week after a resident reported seeing the white Audi A3.

Crew commander Andre Pincher from the fire service, said: "A member of the public saw it roll just past their house."

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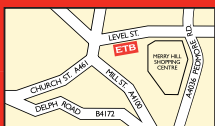
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68YR old lady, likes gardening, meals out, days out, looking for sincere gent to share time with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408413

JENNY single independent attractive lady, tall and leggy, sensual and looking for very special male friend. Only genuine callers pls. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 408285

CHRIS blue eyed blonde single female, lots of interests, loves travel, beach, nights in/out, looking for mature sincere gent for possible ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407615

ATTRACTIVE female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, loyal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406135

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 363428

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CAROL 36, looking for older experienced gent 50-70yrs for fun times only, discretion assured and expected. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401853

SUE attractive lonely brunette who loves evenings in/out, music, WLMT someone sincere to love and get close to, why not give me a call? Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407021

CURVY Irish female 35yrs looking for fun, frolics, weekends away and lots of excitement with reliable male, discretion assured. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407603

SLIM active lady, 60's, N/S, seeks honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407693

ANNABELLA board attractive 30 something nurse wanting healing hands for no strings fun. No TLC required. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407448

SUE 40's female who enjoys evenings in/out looking for someone to have some fun and hopefully get close to, go on, give me a ring. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407019

NICKY loving caring gorgeous fun young lady who loves swimming, dancing and lots more, seeking male for text chats and fun times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407459

BLACK female, 45, seeking older gent, 60 plus who knows how to look after a lady. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407787

PAM 71, feels younger, lots to give, socialising, theatre, country walks, charity work, seeking male to share interests with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407851

LOVING caring young 67yr old female, 5ft 2ins, slim size 12, brown hair, likes meals out, GSOH, smoker, seeks slim, smart male with GSOH, 58-62. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 364651

MANDY divorced independent 46yr old single mum, confident, bubbly and social, looking for male companion to share good times and to be there for each other. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407469

NICKY 26 fun single female who has been on her own far too long desperately seeking her Prince Charming, must be tactile and possess the ability to fall in love. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407485

MICHELLE lonely singleton, fit/slender, passionate, easy-going seeks male to cook for and generally spoil rotten in exchange for great companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407501

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HEATHER larger than life, cuddly blonde lady, scrubs up pretty well, employed, OHAC, GSOH, looking for good times with willing male, fun times guaranteed. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407307

TRACY 35yr old blonde petite single mum, WLMT tall male for nights out, text chats and hopefully ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407215

LYN slim size 10, 5ft 9ins, attractive with GSOH, OHAC, employed, WLMT genuine guy who is also looking to put some fun back into life. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407195

DEBS 37yr old professional, outgoing, bubbly, seeking genuine man for good times in/out and just see where it leads. Single dad welcome. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407039

BLONDE blue eyed 72yr old widow, GSOH, young at heart, seeks honest, caring gent of similar age for holidays, weekends away and happy times, friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407613

WHERE have all the genuine men gone? Sue single female who enjoys nights in/out, music, seeks sincere male to enjoy good times and get close to. Pls ring. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407025

PAULA 38 single mum with OHAC, attractive blue eyes, size 14, seeking well built male with GSOH and honest/reliable disposition, looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407029

FEMALE looking for gent, 65-70, caring, loving and independent. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 378295

SARAH 23, attractive, brunette, slim, looking for male for LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 392979

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MEDIUM build female, 66, widow, 5ft 5ins, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere male. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407003

HI I am Linda a lonely petite mature lady looking for nice caring male up to 55yrs who also has lots of love to give for hopeful relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406715

ANITA petite 33yr old tanned, toned sexy size 10 female with very high drive and lots of energy looking for similar man for adult no stings fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406835

CARING female, likes Indian rock music, concerts, cinema, seeks North Staffs male, 40-55 for friendship/relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406757

LINDA bored housewife wanting to spice things up a bit looking for clean well mannered professional for discreet adult meals. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406705

GOOD looking professional female, 51, enjoys arts, winning/dining, sight seeing, country walks, seeks special male to enjoy great fun with. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406765

DONNA 42yrs young separated female who is ready to start dating again, bubbly, attractive, blonde and raring to get going, come on don't keep me waiting! Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406341

SINGLE cuddly female, 5ft 6ins, green eyes, seeks male, 40-50 for fun and meals. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406015

PAT 67, attractive, likes reading, holidays, seeking female, 65-72 for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405985

SHELLEY 48, 5ft 5ins, brunette, seeking discreet relationship with male 48-52 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405795

CHRISTINA 38 very pretty petite trainee nurse looking for N/S male companionship to enjoy meals/drinks out, leading to more maybe. Age/looks and status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405243

BLACK female 32yrs, 38dd, very curvy, sensual and looking for discreet fun with no strings or complications, any age, looks or status. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405269

MARIA petite curvy brunette, into keep fit, running, beauty, looking for nice genuine tall N/S guy with no ties for fun adult companionship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 405099

SHAZ 33 easygoing voluptuous black female with lovely smile and personality to match, loves music, keeping fit and looking good, WLMT appreciative guy. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404819

WOMAN 55yrs old, N/S, size 14, likes animals, nature, reading, TV, quiet life, seeks man 45-55, N/S for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404447

WIDOW young hearted 70's, N/S, likes reading, concerts, gardening, meals out, WLMT younger gentleman with similar interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404177

MANDY 36, size 10 but busty, looking for discreet relationship with open-minded man. Status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 360317

FRIENDLY outgoing, socially lady, 34 but looks mid 20's (its true) WLMT adventurous male 18-65, I'm open to most ages/things, happy to try most things. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 355761

TALL curvy female, 36dd, loves music, looking for fun and romance with dark male. Give me a call. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 359238

VIVACIOUS strawberry blonde who knows just what she wants, wants down to earth caring male for spontaneous fun relationship, 35-69. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 366707

KIRSTY 36 attractive, blonde and very bored, seeking open-minded discreet decent male who can accommodate for adult fun friendship, 40-60yrs. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 373013

SUZANNA lonely beautiful classy French lady looking for happy decent reliable very sexy man for lots of TLC and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 375711

RITA honest female 33 very pretty with dark complexion seeks hardworking male for romantic dates in or out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 390997

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SINGLE male, youthful, serene, seeks similar down to earth non materialistic female to become everlasting soul mates. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407711

CHRIS divorced, 55, smoker, seeks female, 30-45 for lasting relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407715

GENUINE good looking male, 39, WLMT genuine, pretty female, 24-42 for fun and friendship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407753

SHY 60yr old male, seeks genuine female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407847

32YR old slim, dark haired, adventurous, creative, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 352753

JEFF 60's, 6ft 2ins, fit, seeking lady, mid 50-60's for friendship/relationship, nights in/out and good times. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407811

ROMANCE wanted in Nuneaton, 5ft 11ins, medium build male, seeking a relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406683

JEFF 60's, 6ft 2ins, fit, seeks genuine lady, mid 50-60's for genuine relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404837

IAN 5ft 10ins, 55, caring, honest, looking for sincere female with good personality, 45-55, enjoy being out, socialising, meals. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 382997

MALE 51, seeks lady to spoil and pamper. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 313191

MALE 41, honest, caring, seeks female, 18-55 for friendship, maybe more, must have GSOH. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407677

ALAN retired professional, well travelled, pleasant lifestyle, seeks slim, attractive, N/S lady, 48-60 for LTR and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407575

ACTIVE 30yr old slim, dark haired male, enthusiastic, likes keep fit, photography, seeks female, 19-32. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 330099

MALE 46, enjoys romantic walks, meals out, seeks female biker for rides out and touring. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407171

KIND caring gent 41, 5ft 11ins, fit, build, WLMT similar lady for friendship, maybe more, likes music, the outdoors and eating out. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404055

JOHN 70's, likes music, nights out, seeks female of similar age. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406879

COLIN 5ft 8ins, dark hair, brown eyes, likes pubs, walks, DVDs, holidays, seeks nice lady for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406677

SINGLE gent 71 young at heart, fit and active, OHAC, seeks similar aged lady for companionship, shared interests and possible ltr. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406463

63YR old gent, N/S, easy going, likes DIY, seeks female, 45-60, for friendship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406065

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HONEST 6ft, athletic male, 50, caring, genuine, likes keep fit, DIY, walks, seeks female, 40-55, slim for relationship and romance. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 390023

GEOFF 60's, tall, seeking nice lady for fun, friendship, relationship, maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406077

PAUL 46, brown/blond hair, 6ft, slim, single dad, genuine, down to earth, fun loving, kind, caring, likes most things seeking female for love. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406007

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372

TONY semi retired teacher with lots of interests including sport, theatre, walking, OHAC, WLMT professional female to share interests. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 404637

VINCE 52, caring, seeking female for fun and maybe more. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 401683

GENUINE male, 54, own home, seeks female, any age for discreet fun. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 368871

GAY SINGLES

GAY guy 58, Shropshire, seeks male 30-80 for friend, companion or long term relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 407819

MALE 34, attractive, 5ft 10ins, blue eyes, blond hair, seeks slim male for fun relationship. Any area, can travel. Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311892

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NEWS

Pete wants college site to engineer the future



Pete Waterman, right, with Lowell Williams, principal of Dudley College, as work starts on the foundations of the centre

MUSIC mogul Pete Waterman – who engineered some of the biggest hits of the 1980s – is now singing the praises of an £8 million college centre to train the factory workforce of the future.

The 66-year-old, who as part of the Stock Aitken Waterman trio that produced 22 number ones, dug the ceremonial first turf for Dudley Advance last week. He said the centre, which

will provide 400 Dudley College students with hi-tech engineering skills and training, would help the Black Country to be part of a 'second industrial revolution'.

Mr Waterman, a train fanatic who has run a number of heritage railway maintenance companies, is now on a Department of Transport taskforce set up to make the most of the economic benefits of the controversial High Speed Two – HS2 – rail project.

As he launched the start of the development of Dudley Advance he said HS2 would employ 20,000 people and Black

Country firms would be part of the supply chain for the components needed.

But the workforce needed to be trained and the college's centre, due to open in September 2014, would help to do that.

"The Black Country benefited from the first industrial revolution – and it must be part of the second," he said.

"This is our chance to take engineering back and stamp our own identity on it."

Advance, in Priory Road, Dudley, will house specialist teaching spaces.

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NEWS

Drunk man attacked sister and pub staff

A FORMER DJ got drunk at his father's 65th birthday party, lashed out at a pub landlord, headbutted a barmaid and assaulted his sister, a court heard.

Police arrived to see Phillip Walters lunge towards his sister Tracy Lummon outside the King William, Pensnett. They saw him grab her by the hair.

Miss Lynda Gudgeon, prosecuting, said he had already assaulted landlord Chris Brown and barmaid Sharon Hartshorne minutes before the attack in the pub car park at 12.15am.

Walters, of Granville Street, Birmingham, pleaded guilty to three charges of assault at a previous hearing. He was given a 12 month community order with 40 hours unpaid work to be served concurrently for each of the charges.

He will also have to pay Mr Brown and Sharon Hartshorne £100 and £150 in compensation respectively, a £60 victim surcharge and £85 court costs.

The 28-year-old said he was turning his life around and giving up his plush Birmingham flat and his DJ job to move back in with his parents and take a customer services job at the new Tesco store, Stourbridge.

Magistrates heard he had gone to the pub, in Pensnett Road, on August 31, to celebrate his father's birthday with family.

Mrs Dawn Foxell, defending, said he was 'disturbed in his own behaviour' for the assault, especially to the barmaid.

Passengers claim victory as speedier bus service starts



MP Ian Austin with, from left, Councillors Bryan Cotterill and Adam Aston, Alex Perry, managing director of Arriva, Councillor Kieran Casey and Babs Coombes, area manager of Centro, and residents celebrating the new 22 bus

BUS users in Dudley are claiming victory after a service was extended to dramatically cut journey times following a year-long campaign and petition.

Centro has changed its 22 bus service this to serve hundreds of residents in the Bramford estate in Woodsetton.

The service will take residents to Wolverhampton in 20 minutes – cutting their usual route time on the number 82 by more than 25 minutes.

The change followed a petition and lobbying to the transport authority by ward councillors Keiran Casey and Adam Aston.

On Friday, the councillors met up with residents along with Dudley North MP Ian Austin to celebrate.

Pensioner Barbara Bryan, of Chad Road, said: "The change will make a world of difference for people living in this area who depend on public transport and want to get to the shops in Wolverhampton."

Delight

"Before we had to wait a long time, but I'm told the new service will take us there in about 20 minutes."

"It is going to be a journey of discovery – we're delighted."

Under the changes, the 22 bus service, which links with Oldbury, Great Bridge, Tipton and Wolverhampton, will now cut through Woodsetton, going via Vicarage Road West, Sedgley Road, Chad Road and Park Road.

by Alex Ross

It operates every hour from Monday to Saturday.

Councillor Keiran Casey said: "This is what we have been waiting for."

"Many people in the area use the buses and they deserve a quicker bus route to Wolverhampton – which is a distance which takes just 10 minutes in the car."

"It just shows the hard work of campaigning has paid off."

Councillor Bryan Cotterill, who represents Dudley on passenger transport group Centro, said: "Passengers in the Swan Village area said they wanted a faster route into Wolverhampton city centre."

"We have responded to ensure that the needs of the travelling public are met."

"We are constantly monitoring feedback from our passengers to find out which changes will help make their regular journeys easier."

The service is operated by Arriva. Director Rob Chevaux said: "We hope that the faster journey time and extension, creating links to Tipton, Great Bridge and Sedgley, will encourage more passengers."

NEWS in brief

Canal woman thanks rescuers

AN 80-year-old woman, who was pulled from a canal after falling from her boat near Stourbridge, has thanked her rescuers.

Jean Coumbe, aged 80, was steering her narrow boat when she fell in the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, Stourton.

She cannot remember anything of the incident on October 17 – only waking up in Russells Hall Hospital. Mrs Coumbe, from Plymouth, said: "I can only say thank you – all these people saved my life and I'm very grateful. The nurses there were so kind."

Mrs Coumbe was with her husband David, 82, travelling from Kiner to the Bonded Warehouse, Stourbridge. She said: "I'm lucky people on another boat pulled me out."

No sign of Bishop at book launch

STAND-UP comedian John Bishop left his fans disappointed when he cancelled his book signing at Merry Hill shopping centre.

He was due to appear at Waterstones on Saturday but said on Twitter that he had 'filming commitments'.

Lambs are stolen

RUSTLERS have stolen four lambs. Two lambs were stolen from a farm building in Franche Road, Kidderminster, sometime between October 15 and 16. The thief then took a second pair sometime between October 18 and 19.

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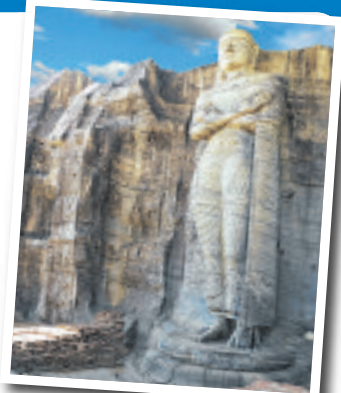
Sri Lanka

Join this comprehensive tour and discover the delights of old Ceylon with its sacred caves, ancient temples and lost cities, ending with two days relaxing on one of Sri Lanka's idyllic tropical beaches. Travel on return scheduled flights from London Heathrow and stay in charming hand-picked three-star hotels, with daily breakfast and dinner included.

One of the first adventures on the itinerary is the famous Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage which boasts a herd of over 75 animals from matriarchs to calves and their daily bath in the river provides a stunning photo opportunity.

Some of the other included tours are to the 600 foot granite tower called Sigiriya, or the Lion Rock, known for its ancient murals of 'cloud maidens'; to Kandy, Sri Lanka's last royal capital; to the amazing cave temples of Dambulla, a UN World Heritage site; and to a well-known tea estate and spice garden, staying at the four-star Grand Hotel, originally the summer home of one of the Governors of Ceylon.

For a different sort of experience, two nights are reserved at the Safari Hotel, which has a pool, bar and restaurant overlooking the Tiffa Lake. Just 45 minutes from the Yala National Park this is the base for an early morning start to the jeep safari in the hope of seeing leopard, elephants, saltwater crocodiles, wild boar, sloth bears, monitor lizards and a huge variety of birdlife. The three-star superior Palms Hotel in the beach resort of Beruwela is the final port of call, allowing for two days of rest and relaxation before the journey home.



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VIETNAM and Cambodia

The beautiful country of Vietnam is a mosaic of mist-shrouded mountains, vibrant green forests, a patch-work of rice paddies and pristine white beaches, whilst its villages and cities are custodians of the culture and monuments of a unique 2,000 year old civilisation.

In the past few years Vietnam has opened its doors to the world and much has changed. Today, in one of the world's last communist countries, the motorcycles and western dress of the youth happily co-exist with orange-clad Buddhist monks and political posters from a different era.

On this 16-day tour you will visit Hue, one of the country's most beautiful small towns and the former imperial capital. Here you will be able to see the amazing Citadel and its imperial Forbidden City, as well as the magnificent seven-storied Thien Mu pagoda, a working Buddhist shrine.

Contorted by years of erosion, explore the staggeringly beautiful rock formations of Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site from on board a converted Chinese junk. Then in Saigon you will be taken on a visit to the Cu Chi tunnels, a complex underground network which provided a base for the Vietcong from which to attack US forces. You will see the tunnels themselves and examples of the many mantraps and stake pits which protected them.

The overwhelming image of Vietnam is that of a country blessed with extraordinary beauty and the friendly Vietnamese always courteous and proud to show of their wonderful country.

In Cambodia you can experience the haunting soft morning light rise over the eerie temples of Angkor. Then later discover the huge fortified 13th century city of Angkor Thom, with its five monumental gates, and 300ft wide moat – its centre containing one of Angkor's most remarkable sites, the temple of Bayon.

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Truck styling firm aims to pick up more workers

Zoo shop on the move



Zoo staff move the Safari Shop sign to the temporary unit next to the vintage chairlift as Tecton repair work gets under way

DUDLEY Zoo's souvenir shop is on the move due to restoration work on some of attraction's Tecton buildings.

Due to repair work going on at the large shop area at the entrance of the zoo, staff have moved the Safari Shop's contents and sign next to the vintage chairlift.

The work is part of a wider £1.15m lottery-funded programme which will see the shop, the wave entrance, bear ravine and kiosk 1, all restored.

The project included repairing and reopening the chairlift.

The zoo has the world's largest single collection of Tecton buildings and in 2009 all 12 structures received World Monuments Fund status, alongside Machu Picchu and the Taj Mahal. The zoo's visitor

services manager, Adrian Pace, said: "The shop move is only temporary while the renovation work is completed and we are hoping to move back by Easter 2014.

"We hope customers will bear with us during this time, but despite the smaller space inside the provisional shop, we still have plenty of things for sale."

As part of the Tecton restoration project, the zoo is running an apprentice-training scheme with Dudley College.

Construction and building students are working on repairing the concrete using conservation methods.

The restoration project is being boosted by the zoo, which will invest £600,000 on a retail complex.

A FLOURISHING Dudley truck accessories supplier is hoping to pick up some new staff as it enjoys soaring sales.

Increasing demand from housebuilders and motorway maintenance firms have been credited with boosting the coffers of Auto Styling Truckman, Narrowboat Way, Brierley Hill.

The company, which makes hard tops for pick-up trucks and also sells 4x4 vehicle accessories, has seen sales rise 11 per cent in the year to the end of August, increasing to £7 million.

At the same time the business has completed a £375,000 expansion of its manufacturing operation, enabling it to increase its workforce by 30 per cent.

Auto Styling Truckman employs 39 members of staff and aims to increase its headcount to 50 by the end of the next financial year.

Mike Wheeler, managing director, said: "We are definitely seeing the benefit of an upturn in the economy."

"Our pick-up truck hard tops are used in industries associated with developing the country's infrastructure such as construction. These sectors are experiencing increased activity, which is leading to them investing in their operations, including their vehicle fleets."

The latest figures from the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT) show that the sale of smaller commercial vehicles such as vans and pick-up trucks has risen 8.1 per cent so far this year after a long period in the doldrums.

Pharaoh-Id musical show

MEMBERS of Overend Methodist Mission, in Banners Lane, Cradley, will sing the Roger Jones musical 'From Pharaoh to Freedom' during its evening service on Sunday at 6pm. Belinda McBain, who will be conducting, said: "This is a powerful musical."

DNA test proves pet belongs to Ruth



Ruth Parker reunited with Alfie, one of her dogs that were stolen when she was at an animal fair earlier this year

A RELIEVED grandmother from Coseley has been reunited with her chihuahua after getting a DNA test carried out in America to prove she was its owner.

Ruth Parker was left distraught when her two-year-old pet Alfie was stolen at an animal show in Cumbria earlier this year.

But after scouring the internet for months she spotted her pet with a new owner on a Facebook group about the breed, the only problem was proving he was hers.

In what is thought to be a UK first, Mrs Parker, of Norton Crescent, took DNA samples from Alfie's parents, Leo and Fifi, in Worcester.

The samples were flown to America where they were matched with Alfie's DNA - proving the dog belonged to Mrs Parker. "It was like living a dream, but at times a nightmare," Mrs Parker



Roxy, Ruth's still missing chihuahua

said. "I just knew I had to get him back."

She paid £350 for the DNA investigation. It followed discussions with

Cumbria Police and her veterinary practice White Cross in Tividale. Alfie was stolen, along with Mrs Parker's other chihuahua Roxy, from a horsebox at the Appleby Horse Fair in Cumbria in June.

Alfie had been sold to a new owner in Wakefield, Yorkshire, who didn't know he had been stolen and renamed him Jasper. Sadly Roxy is still missing.

Mrs Parker added: "I was so happy to get Alfie back, it was fantastic as I had almost given up hope, but never stopped trying."

"It gives me hope I will get Roxy back too, I won't stop looking." Mrs Parker lives with her children Tammie, Paul and Sian and grandchild Danni.

She paid £500 for Alfie two years ago. She bought Roxy for £700 from an Irish family two years before.

Anyone with information on Roxy can call White Cross on 01384 884141.

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REVIEWS

Duo show award-winning prowess

Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar, Newhampton Folk Club, Wolverhampton

If you are going to make an impression with your opening number then one way is to knock the socks off your audience. This is the option award-winning duo Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar took.

Right from the off you could see why they were this year's winners of the Radio2 Young Folk Musicians award.

The Clumsy Lover Set was hammered out by Algar on the fiddle and Russell on the guitar and straight away with Algar it was like watching a young

Seth Lakeman, the skill, fluency and power with which he wields his instrument is astounding.

Hills of the West gave Russell his first chance to show off his singing skills. He doesn't have the strongest of voices and his range seems somewhat limited but he uses his ability well.

Russell changed to the bouzouki for Roses Three, a traditional storytelling song translated from the Swedish. He then pulled out one of his own creations, a another good storytelling song inspired from his history studies, in particular the Tudors. The Queen's Lover, the title track of their debut

album, was a clever and modern offering with a distinctly traditional sound.

They opened the second half with Two Magicians using the guitar and bouzouki. Russell's voice was lost a bit but it was a lovely song.

For two such young lads they show a great deal of maturity when dealing with "hecklers" and are very engaging characters who enjoy the banter.

Russell pulled out a squeeze box for the smooth You Are the Call which was just a joy to listen to. And, after an encore of The New Railroad they went out as they had come in - with a serious bang.

Danny Farragher

Sharp lyrics coupled with Scottish wit

Dick Gaughan, MAC, Birmingham

If you don't like folk music unadorned with lyrics shooting from the hip and peppered with political comment and barbs, then Dick Gaughan is best avoided.

With his natural Scottish wit and insightful musings on the world around him Gaughan, alone on a bare stage with just a single guitar, kept his audience enthralled.

Gaughan does almost as much talking as he does playing but his friendly Scots accent, informal chatting and almost constant strumming as he talks is both engaging and thought-provoking. He is a fine, precise guitar player and, with his sharp lyrics, Gaughan sings with passion.

During the set there were few political figures or movements which didn't come under Gaughan's scrutiny. Tony Blair, George Osborne, Scottish independence, Labour and Tories were all fair game.

Gaughan is never cynical in the sense he still believes things can change if people are willing to stand up and be counted. He told his audience at the Midlands Art Centre that he wrote one particular song 25 years



Dick Gaughan, courtesy of Genia Ainsworth

ago and it's just as relevant now as it was then which he claims either makes him a prophet or that things haven't changed as quickly as he would have liked.

There were also liberal amounts of Scottish history thrown in. One such was The Yew Tree, written by Brian McNeill and inspired by a conversation with a 1,000 year old yew tree, though you have to hear the full story to make sense of it.

Danny Farragher

Byrne-ing desire to entertain

Ed Byrne, Birmingham Symphony Hall

IRISH comic Ed Byrne has always appeared an amiable sort, and the popular funnyman now seems to have embraced growing old with wit.

For his Roaring Forties show, Byrne has grabbed reaching the big 4-0 firmly around the throat with good humour. He kept his Friday night audience at the Symphony Hall entertained throughout with a barrage of anecdotes and jokes, leading to nervous titters and knowing smiles among the crowd of young and old alike.

Support act Ben Norris was a welcome addition and the fact Byrne came out to do a "warm up for the warm up act" suggests it won't be too long before he has a show of his own.

Mark Shipp

HOME

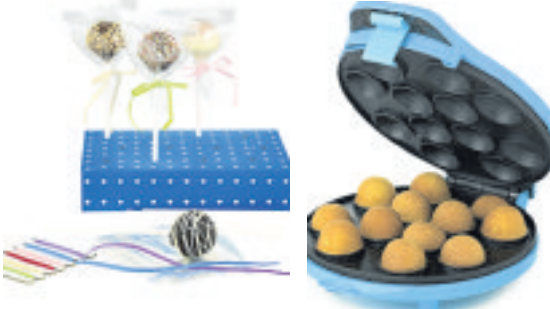
Bite-sized cakes will be top of the pops



CAKE Pops are a yummy new bite-sized treat that have become, pardon the pun, very popular indeed.

Great British Bake Off runner-up Kimberley Wilson could be seen using them as an element for her final showstopper cake.

Some time ago Lakeland had a hit when it introduced the six-hole **Sweet Treats Cake Pop Maker (£17.99)**, now its introducing a 12-hole version that turns out even more



of the delicious little spherical sponges. Follow the recipe, pop the pop mixture into the moulds and in around four minutes you will have 12 cake pops ready to be popped onto lolly sticks and decorated.

Just don't overfill or you will end up with seams that make the pops look like a miniature planet Saturn.

The **12-hole Cake Pop Maker (£26.99)**, which can also be used for mini doughnuts, comes with a few recipes but to really unleash your Cake Pop creativity check out Lakeland's special recipe books. The most extensive of these is **Lakeland Cake Pops (£5.99)**, a 128-page hardback containing 40 recipes, ranging from animals to smiley faces with icing, chocolate and sprinkles involved too.

Accessories include Cake Pop sticks, stand, bags and gift boxes. The **Cake Pop Presentation Kit (£9.99)** comprises 48 sticks, 48 polythene bags, presentation stand and decorative ribbon in assorted colours for that professional look to a homemade present.

For the traditionalists, Lakeland also have **Cake Pop Silicon Moulds (£9.99 each)** and **tins (£17.99 each)**.

And if you are a chocolate lover, why lick the spoon when you can eat it. Lakeland's exclusive **Silicone Chocolate Spoon Mould (£3.49)** makes six edible spoons to make a delicious stir at desert time.

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What's On! Halesowen

REVIEW

Destined to be a blues player

Eric Bibb
Robin2, Bilston
ERIC Bibb was destined to be a musician and even more so he was destined to be a blues player. Bibb knows how to put on a concert, he knows how to get his audience hopping but most of all he knows the blues.

Bibb, who has been playing acoustic guitar professionally since he was 16, may have taken a round-about route to get here but when he arrived boy did he make an impression.

Right from the off at the Wolverhampton venue, with New Home, his foot was stomping enthusiastically as he plucked out the delta blues sound. It was accented by his characteristic head wagging underneath his trademark hat, which seems glued on.

He pulled out one of his audience's favourites next, Shingle by Shingle, which was a much lighter, softer and almost playful ballad.

Bibb really let loose with a song about building a new life which was inspired by Turner's Station, Baltimore. During this song he was reminiscent of Howling Wolf or Lightning Hopkins. This was followed by another fast-paced track with Keep Your Mind On It.

He also did a cover version of I Heard Angels Singing written by Reverend 'Blind' Gary Davies, a street singer in 1950s America. Bibb ended the set with another spiritual, Everyman.

DANNY FARRAGHER

Stars are Outen and about in Grand's anniversary year

Meet Union J at Merry Hill

POPULAR boy band Union J are the headline act for this year's highly-anticipated Christmas lights switch on at Westfield Merry Hill.

The boys will arrive at the centre on Friday, November 15.

The Chronicle are teaming up with Merry Hill to give one lucky reader and their friend the chance to meet the X Factor favourites. As well as getting up close and personal with the famous four, the winner will receive a £100 gift card to splash out with at any of the centre's 200 plus stores.

Rylan

Huge crowds are expected to turn out to enjoy Union J's performance, which will see them treat fans to tunes including top ten hit Carry You, before they begin their UK tour.

Rylan, who found fame on X Factor and has since presented several popular TV shows, will be adding to the festivities with his own performance.

Up-and-coming band R3 Action and singer Lauren Wright will warm up the crowds and Free Radio will be hosting the event to keep everyone entertained with games and giveaways. Tickets cost £1 each with proceeds going to Help Harry Help Others, the centre's charity year.

Tickets will be allocated on a first-



Union J will be providing their fans with an early festive treat at Merry Hill come-first-served basis, and can be purchased from the concierge desk. The event is from 5pm-7pm with a firework display ending festivities with a bang.

For your chance to win tell us on which TV talent show Union J found fame. Send your answer with name, address and telephone number to Union J Competition, Chronicle Series (Editorial), 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date November 7. No cash alternative. Usual rules apply. Editor's decision is final.

A STAR-STUDED programme is coming to Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre to mark the venue's 120th anniversary next year.

Among the high-profile names scheduled to appear is West End and Strictly Come Dancing star Denise Van Outen, who will be performing her new one-woman play, *Some Girl I Used to Know*.

The show – co-written by Terry Ronald with musical supervision by Kylie Minogue's long-term musical collaborator, Steve Anderson – will run at the theatre from February 20 to 22 as part of an 11-date national tour that includes Birmingham New Alexandra Theatre from February 10 to 12.

Other 2014 musical highlights at the Grand include the foot-stomping 80s dance classic *Fame*, which will arrive in March, and rock 'n' roll show *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* in May.

Emmerdale heart-throb Ben Freeman will become 'The Fonz' in Garry Marshall's musical hit *Happy Days*. The show, which will run from June 9 to 14, also stars former Sugababe Heidi Range as Pinky Tuscadero and 80s pop-icon Cheryl Baker as Mrs Cunningham.

Bafta-nominated actor Robert Powell, who took the title role in *Jesus* of



Denise Van Outen

Nazareth, back in 1977, will play Belgian detective Poirot in a staging of Agatha Christie's *Black Coffee* from February 3 to 8. Brookside actor John McArdle joins the cast of Damian Cruden's new adaptation of mining village comedy *Brassed Off* from April 8 to 12.

Peter Cutchie, the theatre's chief executive, said: "Next year marks 120 years of the Grand Theatre in Wolverhampton and a landmark year for the venue, something which I hope is reflected in the diversity and vibrancy of our 2014 programme."

REVIEW

Acting was first class

To Sir With Love, Grand Theatre
THIS heartwarming story really is A grade.

With superb acting from national treasure Matthew Kelly and Ansu Kabia, *To Sir With Love*, which packed out Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre, told the story of a Cambridge graduate and ex-RAF fighter pilot arriving in London in 1948 and discovering what it means to be black in post-war England.

Turned down for job after job in his chosen career as an electronic engineer, Ricky Braithwaite (played by Kabia) begins his first teaching post, in a tough East End school.

Supported by an enlightened headmaster (Kelly), the determined teacher, after a shaky start, bonds with the swearing teenage rebels and teaches them to show respect.

Eventually offered his dream job in engineering he decides to stay at the school and even the grumpy, couldn't-care-less fellow teacher Weston, played superbly by Paul Kemp, is influenced by Ricky's way of teaching.

The play has been brilliantly adapted by Ayub Khan-Din, best known for *East is East*.

The stage adaptation is peppered with the songs and dance of the late 40s. The humour and acting was superb, from both the seniors and the 'pupils'. Top marks!

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What's On!

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SATURDAY'S TV 2.11.13

CHOICE



Trevor Eve (right)

Waking the Dead
Drama, 9pm

This modern classic stars Trevor Eve as Detective Superintendent Peter Boyd. Peter Boyd is a troubled and volatile police officer who's an expert at closing cold cases. Boyd heads up the Cold Case team, a crack squad of police investigators who reopen unsolved murder cases, using new technology to re-examine evidence that hopefully will lead to the killer. New evidence comes to the light in the case of Annie Keel, a woman who tried and convicted twenty-five years ago of a double murder, in which both her husband and neighbour's son were killed in extreme circumstances.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Paul Hollywood's Bread. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **12.45** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Live Rugby League World Cup. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10** Formula 1: The Abu Dhabi Grand Prix - Qualifying Highlights. **6.15** BBC News: Regional News; Weather. **6.30** Strictly Come Dancing. The couples perform their spookiest routines in a Halloween special, with the judges deciding who was frightfully good and who was awfully bad. Bruce Forsyth and Tess Daly present. The results are tomorrow at 7.20pm. **8.15** Atlantis. Hercules visits a witch in an attempt to win Medusa's heart, but when he releases a toxic enchantment, Jason has to undo history - unaware he is walking into a deadly trap. **9.05** The National Lottery Live. Chris Evans reveals the results of the Lotto and the Thunderball. **9.15** Casualty. Iain is deeply affected by an attack on two police officers, stirring up memories of his life in the Army, and Charlie tries to help a young family keep hold of their little girl. **10.05** BBC News: Weather. **10.25** Match of the Day. Including action from Arsenal v Liverpool; National Lottery Update. **11.55** The Football League Show. Highlights of today's games in the Championship, League One and League Two. **1.10** Weather. **1.15** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **7.10** Film: Second Chorus. (1940) **8.35** Film: Stage Struck. (1958) **10.10** Reel History of Britain. (R) **10.40** The Life of Birds. (R) **11.30** Fred Dibnah's Industrial Age. (R) **12.00** The A to Z of TV Cooking. **12.45** Talking Pictures. **1.25** Film: Becket. (1964) **3.50** Film: Bitter Victory. (1957) **5.30** The House That £100K Built. (R) **6.30** Flog It! Mark Stacey and James Lewis offer advice to antique-hunters in Northampton, and Paul Martin learns about the origins of the corset industry in Market Harborough. (R) **7.30** Meet the Monkeys: Natural World. Colin Stafford-Johnson travels to the Indonesian island of Sulawesi to shed light on the lives of Celebes crested macaques, which are found nowhere else in the world. (R) **8.30** Dad's Army. Captain Mainwaring discovers he is not a commissioned officer. (R) **9.00** Live from the National Theatre: 50 Years on Stage. A celebration of the company's 50th anniversary, with performances by Judi Dench, Ralph Fiennes, Derek Jacobi, Helen Mirren, Maggie Smith, Benedict Cumberbatch and James Corden. **11.15** The Sarah Milligan Slightly Longer Television Programme. Extended edition. With Suzi Perry, Bruno Tonioli, Matt Baker and Alex Jones. Last in the series. **11.55** Film: A Cock and Bull Story. (2006) Comedy, starring Steve Coogan and Rob Brydon. **1.25** Film: Octane. (2003) **2.50** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. **6.10** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Animals. (R) **7.15** Animals. (R) **7.25** Sooty. **7.35** Horrid Henry. (R) **7.50** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **8.15** Bottom Knockout Street. **8.30** Munch Box. **9.25** Saturday Cookbook. (R) **10.20** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **11.15** ITV News: Weather. **11.25** Surprise Surprise. (R) **1.10** Doc Martin. (R) **2.15** Catchphrase. (R) **3.00** Film: Star Wars: Episode III - Revenge of the Sith. (2005) **5.35** Regional Programme: Weather. **5.45** ITV News: Weather. **6.00** New You've Been Framed! Comical clips, narrated by Harry Hill. **6.30** Fool Britannia. A hapless prison officer keeps losing inmates. **7.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special. With Antony Cotton, Alex Jones, Gyles Brandreth and Paul Martin. **8.00** The X Factor. The battle for a music career continues as the budding pop stars take on classic disco tracks in the fourth live show, and Nile Rodgers and Chic perform a medley of their hits. The results are tomorrow at 8pm. **9.50** The Jonathan Ross Show. With Paul Hollywood, Steve Coogan, Jonathan Rhys Meyers and Pet Shop Boys. **10.55** ITV News: Weather. **11.10** Take Me Out. An accountant, a mixologist, a sales assistant and a historian take part. (R) **12.10** Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.45** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 The Hoobs. (R) **6.40** The Hoobs. (R) **7.05** Volleyball. (R) **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** The American Football Show. **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.25** Heston's Titanic Feast. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **6.00** Come Dine with Me. Nail artist and beautician Gina Shepherd hosts the final dinner party from Sheffield, but her guests have low expectations when her menu is revealed. (R) **6.30** Channel 4 News. **7.00** Double Your House for Half the Money. Sarah Beeny helps a Berkshire family double the size of its 1960s semi and meets a Kent couple who want to create more space in their cramped 1960s detached home. (R) **8.00** Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud follows a project near Newbury to construct a modern farmhouse that combines an open-plan party pad with functional spaces below. (R) **9.00** Film: The Eagle. (2011) Premiere. A Roman centurion and his British slave journey into the wilds of Scotland to recover the standard of a lost legion. Action adventure, with Channing Tatum. **11.15** Film: From Dusk Till Dawn. (1996) Horror, starring George Clooney. **1.20** Film: Once Upon a Time in Anatolia. (2011) **3.55** Hollyoaks. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.10** Power Rangers: Megaforce. **10.45** Sluggers. **11.10** Inside Hollywood. **11.15** Ben Fogle's Animal Clinic. (R) **12.15** Film: Columbo: Blueprint for Murder. (1972) **1.50** Film: Objective, Burma! (1945) **4.35** Film: The Colditz Story. (1954) **6.30** Lost Heroes of World War One. How the troops became demoralised when they realised their efforts were leading nowhere and the fighting conditions worsened in battles such as Arras and Passchendaele. (R) **7.00** The Great Escape: Revealed. Archaeologists piece together the true story of the famous POW break-out, taking three veterans of the escape attempt back to the remains of Stalag Luft 3. (R) **8.00** War Hero in My Family. David Gower uncovers the story of his uncle and Sara Cox finds out about her grandfather, both of whom made valuable contributions during the course of the Second World War. (R) **8.55** 5 News Weekend. **9.00** Film: Collateral Damage. (2002) A heroic firefighter heads for Colombia to seek revenge after his wife and child are killed in a terrorist attack. Action thriller, with Arnold Schwarzenegger. **11.15** Film: Alien Hunter. (2003) Sci-fi thriller, starring James Spader. **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** Scream: The True Story. (R) **4.00** Michaela's Wild Challenge. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.10** Hana's Helpline. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Top Gear **8.00** Rugby Union **9.00** Film: The Recruit (2003) **10.50** Family Guy
BBC Four
7.00 Frozen Planet **8.00** Stories from the Dark Earth: Meet the Ancestors Revisited **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.45** Rock 'n' Roll Britannia **11.45** Totally British 70s Rock 'n' Roll
ITV2
5.15 Film: Casper (1995) **7.10** Film: The Perfect Storm (2000) **9.50** The Xtra Factor **10.50** Celebrity Juice: Halloween Special **11.40** Release the Hounds
ITV3
2.55 Film: Columbo: Murder with Too Many Notes (2000) **4.45** A Touch of Frost **6.55** Rosemary & Thyme **7.55** Foyles War **10.00** Bomb Girls **11.00** The Crime Thriller Awards 2013
Drama
4.20 Birds of a Feather **5.40** The Good Life **7.00** Birds of a Feather **7.40** Jonathan Creek **9.00** Waking the Dead **11.25** Murphy's Law **E4**
3.55 Rules of Engagement **4.55** How I Met Your Mother **5.55** The Big Bang Theory **7.00** How I Met Your Mother **7.30** Suburgatory **8.00** New Girl **9.00** Film: Shooter (2007) **11.35** Film: Good Luck Chuck (2007)
Film4
3.05 Ben-Hur (1959) **7.10** Legend (1985) Fantasy adventure, with Tom Cruise. **9.00** Beverly Hills Cop (1984) A Detroit cop goes to Los Angeles to track down the killers of his friend, who are working for an untouchable drug kingpin. Comedy thriller, with Eddie Murphy and Judge Reinhold. **11.00** A Field in England (2013) Civil War horror, starring Reece Shearsmith.

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What's On!

SUNDAY'S TV 3.11.13

Listings supplied by Press Association

CHOICE



Niamh Cusack

Catherine Cookson's The Secret Drama, 9pm

Catherine Cookson's Colour Blind is a gritty period drama set during World War I from the pen of the best-selling author. When Bridget McQueen's (Niamh Cusack) family discover that she is returning to Newcastle with her new husband they are delighted, until they discover that Bridget's new man is black. When they have a child, Rose Angela, they are ostracised from many. As Rose Angela grows up, she too discovers that society can be an unforgiving place, and is torn between two men who both declare their love for her. Niamh Cusack and Art Malik star.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Sunday Morning Live. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** M0102 Extra. **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** The Story of the Swastika. **1.45** Bargain Hunt. **2.40** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.40** Points of View. **3.55** Songs of Praise. **4.30** Formula 1: Abu Dhabi Grand Prix - Highlights. **6.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **6.20** Countryfile. Matt Baker finds out how to look after the orchard in the grounds of his Hertfordshire home, and Julia Bradbury discovers how the local landscape inspired sculptor Henry Moore. **7.20** Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Another couple perform their last dance. **8.00** The Paradise. Tom cancels the staff outing to the music hall, so Denise suggests the staff should put on their own show, while also worrying about whether to apply for the head of ladieswear job. **9.00** Richard Hammond Builds a Planet. The Top Gear presenter creates a CGI world from the top of a two-mile-high tower in the California desert, onlisting the help of scientists to carry out experiments along the way. **10.00** BBC News: Regional News: Weather. **10.25** Match of the Day 2. Everton v Tottenham Hotspur and Cardiff City v Swansea City. **11.30** Rugby League World Cup. Highlights of the latest group matches. **12.30** The Sky at Night. **12.50** Weatherview. **12.55** BBC News.

BBC2

6.00 This Is BBC Two. **7.10** Film: The Bride Walks Out. (1936) **8.30** Alan Titchmarsh's Garden Secrets. (R) **9.30** Gardeners' World. (R) **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.30** EastEnders. **1.20** Rugby Union. **2.20** Live Cycling. **5.30** Inspire: The Olympic Journey. Gabby Logan visits Glasgow ahead of next year's Commonwealth Games. (R) **6.00** Flag It! (R) **6.30** The Ginge, the Geordie and the Geek. A referee treats a pub like a football pitch. Last in the series. **7.00** How to Build a Jumbo Jet Engine. Following engineers and workers at Rolls-Royce's Derby factory as they construct the company's Trent 1000 jet engine in preparation for its maiden flight. (R) **8.00** Africa's Last Oasis: Countdown to the Rains. New series. The lives of animals living near the Luangwa River in Zambia. **9.00** Great Continental Railway Journeys. Michael Portillo travels from Turin to Venice. **10.00** The Wrong Mans. Sam and Phil put themselves at risk to save the day. Last in the series. (R) **10.30** QI XL. Extended edition. With Jo Brand, Marcus Brigstocke and Danny Baker. **11.15** Never Mind the Buzzcocks. Eamonn Holmes hosts, with Sarah Milligan, Shaun Ryder, Greg McHugh and Jaymi Hensley. (R) **11.45** Film: The Invisible. (2007) Supernatural thriller, starring Justin Chatwin. **1.20** Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **2.15** Holy City. (R) **3.15** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Babar and the Adventures of Badou. **6.10** Matt Hatter Chronicles. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan. (R) **7.00** Animals. (R) **7.10** Animals. (R) **7.15** Animals. (R) **7.25** Sooty. **7.35** Horrid Henry. (R) **7.50** Big Time Rush. **8.15** Bottom Knockout. **8.30** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Storage Hoarders. (R) **10.30** Sunday Side Up. **11.30** Sunday Scoop. **12.30** ITV News: Weather. **12.35** Inside the National Trust. **1.35** Fool Britannia. (R) **2.05** The X Factor. (R) **3.55** Downton Abbey. (R) **5.00** You've Been Framed! (R) **5.30** Prize Island. **6.35** Regional Programme: Weather. **6.45** ITV News: Weather. **7.00** Surprise Surprise. Gok Wan gives an inspirational mother a makeover. Jessie J performs as a surprise for a 13-year-old girl, and a fundraiser is reunited with a friend after almost 30 years apart. **8.00** The X Factor Results. With live music by Taylor Swift and Little Mix. **9.00** Downton Abbey. Robert travels to America to bail out Cora's brother, Blake and Mary are forced to put aside their differences and help comes from an unlikely quarter when Violet is taken ill. **10.05** ITV News: Weather. **10.20** OCD Ward. Four severe cases of obsessive compulsive disorder. (R) **11.20** Premiership Rugby Union. Action from the latest top-flight fixtures. **12.20** The Store. (R) **2.20** Motorsport UK. **3.10** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.10 The American Football Show. (R) **7.05** Yorkshire Marathon. **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.55** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **1.50** The Simpsons. (R) **2.20** The Simpsons. (R) **2.50** The Simpsons. (R) **3.20** Film: Star Trek V: The Final Frontier. (1989) **5.25** Channel 4 News. **5.50** Film: Grease. (1978) **8.00** Bigfoot Files. Mark Evans travels to Russia to investigate the story of Zana, a "wild woman" said to have been found in the 1870s and thought to be a hominid or Neanderthal. Last in the series. **9.00** Homeland. A mysterious man enters the country at the US-Canadian border. Carrie puts her mission on the line to complete a risky favour and Saul is forced to rub elbows with an adversary. **10.00** Was It Something I Said? With guests Robert Webb and Miles Jupp. **10.25** Toast of London. Steven is offered a starring role in a new film. **10.50** No Fire Zone. Documentary investigating crimes against humanity alleged to have been committed by the Sri Lankan government during the country's civil war. **11.45** Alan Carr: Chatty Man. James Corden talks about the DVD release of The Wrong Mans. Tom Hiddleston discusses Thor: The Dark World and Joan Collins shares some of her memoirs. (R) **12.45** American Football Live. **4.45** Killarney Adventure Race. (R) **5.15** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **6.15** Fill and the Flowertots. (R) **6.25** Bubble Guppies. (R) **6.35** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.50** Chloë's Closet. (R) **7.00** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.10** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **7.25** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.40** City of Friends. (R) **7.50** Bert and Ernie's Great Adventures. (R) **7.55** Little Princess. (R) **8.10** The Adventures of Bottle Top Bill and His Best Friend Corky. (R) **8.25** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **8.45** Hana's Helpline. (R) **9.00** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.10** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **9.15** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.30** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **9.45** Jelly Jam. (R) **10.00** Power Rangers: Super Samurai. **10.35** Sluggert. **11.00** Cowboy Builders. (R) **12.00** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.00** Film: Ghostbusters. (1984) **3.00** Film: Baby Boom. (1987) **5.10** Film: The Fox and the Hound. (1981) **6.50** 5 News Weekend. **6.55** Film: U-571. (2000) Second World War adventure, starring Matthew McConaughey, Harvey Keitel and Bill Paxton. **9.00** Film: 2012. (2009) Premiere. As the human race faces extinction in a global cataclysm, a writer tries to get his family to the last safe refuge. Disaster movie, with John Cusack and Chiwetel Ejiofor. **12.10** Film: Creep. (2004) **1.35** SuperCasino. **3.10** The Gadget Show. (R) **4.00** Michael's Wild Challenge. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **4.50** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.00** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.20** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.25** The Funky Valley Show. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R) **5.50** Hana's Helpline. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three **7.00** Great TV Mistakes **7.10** Film: Cars (2006) **9.00** Russell Howard's Good News **10.00** Family Guy **10.45** Sweat the Small Stuff **11.15** American Dad! **BBC Four** **7.00** Yellowstone: Unnatural Histories **8.00** Dreaming the Impossible: Unbuilt Britain **9.00** Searching for Exile - Truth or Myth? **10.00** Searching for Exile: The Debate **10.45** Treasures of Chinese Porcelain **11.45** Pink Floyd: Wish You Were Here **ITV2** **3.10** Film: The Borrowers (1997) **4.55** Film: Rumor Has It (2005) **6.55** Film: Dragonheart (1996) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00** The Only Way Is Essex **10.50** Freshers **11.50** Tricked **ITV3** **1.55** Agatha Christie's Marple **4.05** Film: Blue Murder at St Trinian's (1957) **5.50** Agatha Christie's Poirot **7.00** Lewis **9.00** The Best of the Royal Variety **10.00** Film: Meet Joe Black (1998) **Drama** **2.10** Catherine Cookson's Colour Blind **5.10** The Good Life **6.30** A Bit of a Do **7.40** Lark Rise to Candleford **9.00** Catherine Cookson's Colour Blind **E4** **4.00** How I Met Your Mother **5.30** Rules of Engagement **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Film: The Seeker: The Dark is Rising (2007) **10.00** Drifters **11.00** Channel 4's Comedy Gala **11.55** Misfits **Film4** **2.50** Just My Luck (2006) **4.45** Hocus Pocus (1993) **6.40** Definitely, Maybe (2008) **9.00** Season of the Witch (2011) Fantasy adventure, starring Nicolas Cage. **10.50** Rosemary's Baby (1968)

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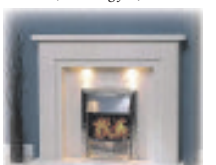
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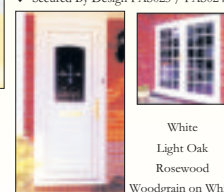
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Film Choices

MONDAY

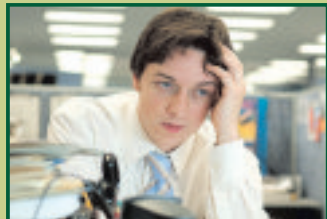
Judge Dredd, Channel 5, 11pm

A law enforcer in a post-apocalyptic city is framed for a series of crimes committed by a fugitive who shares his DNA. He escapes from a prison transport and returns to hunt down the culprit and clear his own name. Sci-fi thriller based on the 2000AD comic-strip, starring Sylvester Stallone and Rob Schneider. (1995)

TUESDAY

The Men Who Stare at Goats, BBC1, 11.50pm

A journalist desperate to be posted to a war zone encounters a special forces agent, who claims to have been part of a top-secret project to endow soldiers with superhuman powers. As the reporter joins the supposed psychic on a journey across Iraq, he discovers the bizarre story behind the experiment. Satirical comedy, starring George Clooney. (2009)



Wanted, Friday, ITV, 11.05pm

WEDNESDAY

Step Brothers, Channel 5, 10pm

Brennan and Dale are two 40-year-old men who have never flown the nest. All that changes when Brennan's mother marries Dale's father, and the spoiled sons are forced to share a room. They take an instant dislike to each other, but when their long-suffering parents finally insist they find jobs, they learn to work together. Comedy, with Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly. (2008)

THURSDAY

That Touch of Mink, Channel 4, 1.15pm

A sophisticated millionaire businessman goes in passionate pursuit of a strait-laced secretary. She is also attracted to him, but is saving herself for marriage while he only wants a casual affair. However, she remains convinced he is the man for her and tries to change his ways. Romantic comedy, starring Cary Grant, Doris Day and Audrey Meadows. (1962)

FRIDAY

Wanted, ITV, 11.05pm

A disillusioned man learns his father was a member of a secret society of assassins dedicated to eliminating people who are destined to commit acts of evil in the future. Having inherited his father's special abilities, he is recruited into the organisation and must take on a former member who has betrayed it. Action adventure, starring James McAvoy and Angelina Jolie. (2008)

The 13th Warrior, BBC1, 11.50pm

A disgraced nobleman exiled from his Baghdad home joins forces with Norse warriors at the close of the first millennium, and ends up battling seemingly invincible attackers during an epic journey. Action adventure, starring Antonio Banderas and Omar Sharif. (1999)

Pick of the Week

Dynamic duo's return is out of this world

Movie fans can rejoice as the ever-engaging Film 2013 returns for a new series.

While reviews of Sandra Bullock/George Clooney blockbuster Gravity, and the documentary Seduced and Abandoned are the backbone of this edition, the success of the show lies in the banter between Claudia Winkleman and co-presenter Danny Leigh.

In between working on Strictly Come Dancing, and hosting The Radio 2 Arts show, Claudia admits she has nothing but praise for Mr Leigh. "He's incredibly kind and brilliant. He's an intellect and he relishes great film," she enthuses. "I am basically always looking for Sandra Bullock. I'm like: 'Is she in it?' Danny says: 'Claud, you've got to stop speaking.' Given her fondness for one of Hollywood's most powerful actresses, Gravity should leave her perched on the edge of her seat.

The tale of two astronauts stranded after their shuttle is wrecked by debris will leave many short of breath. Sandra's

powerhouse performance has already suggested an Oscar nomination, while director Alfonso Cuarón could be up for Best Director.

Do Claudia and Danny discuss the films like Gravity before the show? "Sometimes. There are some films where I have to speak to him immediately. I can't wait. I phone him up and say: 'Did you see...?' But we try and not speak too much about it. We try not to argue, but if we do it's good fun to watch."

The Film 2013 team wisely keep their movies of the year list under wraps until December, so with that in mind, what's been Claudia's favourite film of the past 12 months? "Lincoln is the one that I have re-watched. I thought, 'Have I gone mad?' because I loved it so much, and it only gets better with more viewings. I absolutely loved it."

Is there a film that's changed her life? "Oh, they've all changed my life," she explains. "I've got a soft spot for ET. For me films are emotions and about the first time you saw it."

Danny admits he also has a fondness for Steven Spielberg's moving tale of a stranded alien. "As a child the big ones were things like Time Bandits and ET," he explains. "I started falling in love with the cinema at that point. Maybe when I was a little bit older than that I started watching older films."

I remember stumbling across Citizen Kane as a kid which was on TV at Christmas, and I was very into the Marx brothers as well."

Back to the present, and one of Claudia's fondest memories was seeing the most lucrative film of the year. "Iron Man 3, don't laugh, I think it was out at the beginning of this year, and I took my son. It was the first time me and him had gone to see a proper grown-up film, and when we left, he held my hand and he went, 'Mummy. Can we go and see it again?' So we just went straight back and watched the next viewing," she smiles. "How often does your son think you're cool enough to do that?"



Claudia Winkleman and Danny Leigh, Film 2013, Wednesday, 11.05pm

Best of the Rest

MONDAY

MasterChef: The Professionals BBC2, 8.30pm

MasterChef: The Professionals has run for five ever-gripping series before now, and we're still just as hooked – even those of us who can't knock up a salad without burning it – but judge Monica Galetti thinks she may have the answer to the show's success: "Because it's real, there's no acting involved: we give it to (the contestants) as it is. I love the fact that throughout the programme, we're nurturing the future of the culinary world." Monica joins fellow judges Gregg Wallace and Michel Roux Jr to meet the first batch of eight chefs. They're challenged to put together a dish using a selection of seven ingredients, including artichokes, mushrooms and chocolate. But they've only got an hour...

The Choir: Sing While You Work BBC2, 9pm

Most people would claim that, bar the odd warble in the shower if the mood so takes them, they can't sing. In fact, the very idea of standing in front of hundreds of people, belting out a tune probably leaves them in a cold sweat. But these folk haven't met choirmaster Gareth Malone. He's back for a second series to put more organisations through their choral paces – in a bid to find the best workplace choir. First up, Gareth's meeting the staff of P&O Ferries, but if he thought it was going to be as simple as taking them through the music scales he can think again – with choir members based at sea on both sides of the English Channel, he's going to have a logistical challenge to overcome...

TUESDAY

The Escape Artist BBC1, 9pm

Is it possible to be too good at your job? Junior barrister Will Burton (David Tennant) probably thinks so after his courtroom skills led to serial killer Liam Foyle (Toby Kebbell) being acquitted of murder and let back out on the streets. In this second episode, it looks like there might be a chance to make up for the miscarriage of justice as Liam is back in the dock. For once, Will is going to have to use his talents to bolster the prosecution's case – but he can't be seen to be getting involved as he's also a key witness in the trial. And just to add to the pressure, Will's old adversary Maggie Gardner (Sophie Okonedo) is leading Liam's defence.

WEDNESDAY

Agatha Christie's Poirot ITV, 8pm

In order to arrest infamous art thief Marrascaud, the Metropolitan Police create what they believe is a perfect trap. The bait is the Le Mesurier family, and in particular daughter Lucinda (Lorna Nickson Brown). She will be wearing an exceptionally expensive diamond necklace during her society debut, and with 'Hercules Vanquishing the Hydra', an invaluable work by Marrascaud's favourite artist Van Druijs on display, that

should lure the light-fingered thief right into the trap. Naturally Hercule Poirot (David Suchet) is in attendance, but to everyone's amazement, Marrascaud steals the painting and jewels, but leaves the butchered body of Lucinda. Poirot is devastated, but a new case involving the missing maid of a famous Russian dancer could bring about Marrascaud's capture.

River Cottage to the Core Channel 4, 8pm

Nobody could ever accuse Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall of being work-shy. It's anyone's guess as to whether or not television's busiest man will allow himself a couple of week's rest before his next project after wrapping up this series tonight, but he's definitely saved the best until last. With the changing of the seasons and the chill of autumn in the air, Hugh's keen to serve up some classic dishes – and it's all getting a bit fruity. He also meets a team from Gleaners UK, who harvest and distribute fruit that would otherwise have been left to rot. The pigs at River Cottage are moving onto a diet of apples from an unused orchard, while Gill Meller and Pam Corbin make the most of rosehips.

The Nation's Favourite Elvis Song, Friday, ITV, 9pm

THURSDAY

Breathless ITV, 9pm

The success of period dramas Mad Men and The Hour continue to cast a large shadow over nostalgic dramas such as this. Of course it doesn't hurt that Breathless boasts such a great cast, including Natasha Little, Iain Glen and Jack Davenport. In this week's offering, Elizabeth attempts to manage the situation with Mulligan alone, but it soon becomes obvious that he cannot be reasoned with. Unable to turn to Otto for help, Elizabeth realises Mulligan might win. Angela (Catherine Steadman) eventually gives in to her feelings for Otto, but before anything can happen, Thomas and Elizabeth arrive at the hospital, and remind Angela that he is a married man.

FRIDAY

The Nation's Favourite Elvis Song ITV, 9pm

Elvis Presley was one of the 20th century's most significant cultural icons. When he died in August 1977, aged 42, he left a legacy of some of the best-loved songs ever recorded. With the aid of archive footage and home videos, this documentary/ countdown narrated by Zoe Ball, pays tribute to the man behind the music, explains how these classic songs came, about and the effect they had on the world. Among the star-studded cast of contributors are Michael Bublé, Cliff Richard, Suzi Quatro, Michael Ball, Englebert Humperdinck and Cerys Matthews. One of the highlights of the show is an interview with Priscilla Presley, Elvis's ex-wife and mother to their daughter Lisa Marie Presley.

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built-in oven, gas hob with a hood over and another sash window.

All the bedrooms features sash windows and the master has an en suite shower room while outside are the attractively landscaped grounds, parking area with parking space and visitor spaces.

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ROWLEY REGIS, Regis Heath Road£725 pcm
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NEW

SELLY OAK, Corisande Road£595 pcm
A 3 bedroom semi detached house in a popular location with bus links to Birmingham City Centre, close proximity to Birmingham University and QE Hospital. Featuring 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen with appliances, 2 doubles and 1 single bedrooms, bathroom shower. Walking distance to Selly Oak Park.



ROWLEY REGIS, Bell End£595 pcm
A well presented unfurnished modern end terrace house, briefly featuring 3 bedrooms, master bedroom with en-suite, house bathroom with shower, downstairs vc, fitted kitchen, gas central heating, double glazing, garage and driveway parking, lovely rear garden, convenient for access into Merry Hill, near to junction 2.



HALESOWEN, Graham Road£575 pcm
A 3 bed traditional semi detached house in a cul-de-sac location. An ideal position for Blackheath Town Centre and access for the M5. This unfurnished property features a lovely entrance hall, lounge with bay window, dining/kitchen, 2 double and 1 single bedrooms, shower room, gas central heating, double glazing, garage and driveway, rear garden.



HALESOWEN, Wiltshire Drive£575 pcm
Located on the Homer Hill Estate. A well presented semi-detached home briefly featuring 3 bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, spacious lounge, dining room, family bathroom with shower, double glazing, gas central heating, front and rear gardens, unfurnished.



BEARWOOD, St Marys Road£570 pcm
A 2 bedroom furnished to suit mid terrace house located in this very popular area of Bearwood. The property offers spacious accommodation with 2 reception rooms, kitchen with appliances, downstairs bathroom with shower, 2 double bedrooms. Private rear garden. On road parking. Available now.



STOURBRIDGE, Holly Grove£565 pcm
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OLDSWINFORD, Hall Street£550 pcm
A quaint mid-terrace house, close to local shops and transport links, comprising of 1 double bedroom, 1 single bedroom, fitted kitchen with white goods, downstairs bathroom with shower, spacious lounge, small rear garden, double glazing, gas central heating, on road parking.



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WORDSLEY, Cooknell Drive£525 pcm
Located in the centre of Wordsley and ideal for local buses to Stourbridge and Merry Hill. Featuring gas central heating, spacious living room, fitted dining kitchen, 2 bedrooms, en-suite shower room to master bedroom, house bathroom, rear garden, driveway parking.



HALESOWEN, Hope Street£525 pcm
A fully refurbished ground floor apartment having spacious lounge, refitted kitchen with integrated electric oven and hob, 3 bedrooms, refitted bathroom and newly fitted carpets. The apartment has a garage and gardens to front and rear, full double glazing and gas central heating.



OLDSWINFORD, Heath Lane£515 pcm
Ideally located in the centre of Oldswinford for shops, transport links and Mary Stevens Park. This large and spacious end terrace house features 3 good size bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, downstairs bathroom, fitted kitchen, enclosed rear garden and on road parking.



HALESOWEN, Banners Street£495 pcm
A mid terrace property which has been refurbished comprises of 2 double bedrooms, brand new fitted kitchen, 2 reception rooms, white bathroom suite with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, large tiered garden with decking area, on road parking.



CRADLEY HEATH, Coppice Road£495 pcm
A 2 bedroom semi-detached house recently fully refurbished comprising front reception room, spacious rear lounge, fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, gas central heating, double glazing, front and rear gardens, on road parking.



NETHERTON, Round Street£475 pcm
Set in a quiet road, is this lovely semi-detached home. Featuring gas central heating, living room, fitted kitchen, 1 double and 1 single bedroom, bathroom with shower, rear garden and driveway parking for 2 cars, unfurnished. Popular residential street close to Netherton High Street.



DUDLEY, Southgate Way£450 pcm
A stunning and spacious well presented unfurnished top floor apartment featuring 1 double bedroom and 1 single bedroom, electric storage heating, double glazing, open plan living room with fitted kitchen, house bathroom with shower, allocated parking space. Viewing highly recommended. Available immediately.



BRIERLEY HILL, Little John Street£450 pcm
Located within walking distance to Brierley Hill and Merry Hill. This unfurnished modern end terrace house features 2 double bedrooms, gas central heating, fitted kitchen, downstairs vc, spacious living room, bathroom with shower, rear garden, off road parking for 2 cars.



HALESOWEN, Hagley Road£450 pcm
An immaculately presented ground floor 1 bedroom flat, within walking distance to Halesowen Town Centre. Featuring an open plan living room/modern fitted kitchen with integrated fridge/freezer and washing machine, bathroom with shower over bath, allocated parking space, unfurnished. Available now.



CRADLEY HEATH, Elbow Street£440 pcm
A wonderfully unfurnished 1st floor apartment within walking distance to Old Hill shops and train station. This property comprises a light and airy living room, fitted kitchen with white goods, 1 double bedroom, bathroom with shower. Benefits include electric storage heating, communal gardens, allocated parking.

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Sunnybank Road, Dudley



£86,950

This three bedroom semi detached property briefly comprises lounge, kitchen, bathroom and rear garden.

Doughty Close, Tipton



£79,950

A modern first floor two bedroom flat comprising lounge, kitchen, bathroom and en-suite to master bedroom.

Nelson Road, Dudley



£65,000

Mid terraced three bedroom property briefly comprising lounge, dining room, downstairs bathroom, kitchen and rear garden.

Stuart Road, Halesowen



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This detached house situated in a popular residential area comprising lounge, kitchen, conservatory, four bedrooms and garage. Halesowen

Cloister Drive, Halesowen



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Four bedroom detached house situated on a well established residential estate includes lounge, dining room and conservatory. Halesowen

Clancey Way, Halesowen



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Three storey townhouse comprising four bedrooms, three bathrooms and benefits from off road parking. Halesowen

YOU ONLY NEED A 5% DEPOSIT TO SECURE YOUR NEW HOME NOW IS A GOOD TIME TO CHECK OUT YOUR MORTGAGE OPTIONS

The Government's decision to bring forward Help-to-Buy Phase 2 is encouraging news for first-time buyers and home movers, according to local leading estate agency Dixons Estate Agents in Halesowen. The second phase of the scheme is a mortgage guarantee, which allows buyers to purchase a home worth £600,000 or less with just a 5% deposit. The mortgage guarantee applies to all property purchases, not just new-build homes, and the Government will guarantee up to 15% of the value of the property through an agreement with the lender. Help-to-Buy Phase 2 was expected to launch in January 2014 but the Government has brought it forward to October 2013 as a continuation of its pledge to help more people across the country become homeowners. The Government aims to do this by increasing the supply of low-deposit mortgages and enable those with a 5% deposit to get on the housing ladder. Commenting on the launch of Help-to-Buy Phase 2, Matt Till, Branch manager at Dixons Estate Agents said: "We welcome the launch of Help to Buy Phase 2 which will enable more people to get on the housing ladder and alleviate pent up demand for those wishing to purchase their first home or trade up. As part of Countrywide plc, the UK's largest mortgage broker, we are able to offer our customers access to a range of competitively priced mortgage products ranging from 95% to 60% loan-to-value. Through Help-to-Buy Phase 2 we are delighted to be able to offer a 90% and 95% loan-to-value mortgage from one of the high street's leading lenders." The interest rates for a 95% mortgage available through Help-to-Buy Phase 2 mean that the mortgage is affordable and repayments are manageable for homebuyers. For many people the monthly mortgage payments will be cheaper than the cost of the average monthly rent. "First-time buyers and home movers with just a 5% deposit should speak to a mortgage consultant now to find out more about the best mortgage options to suit their needs," says Matt Till Halesowen Office Dixons Estate Agents. The first phase of the Help-to-Buy scheme was launched in April 2013 and offers loans of up to 20 per cent to all homebuyers who are purchasing a new-build property up to the value of £600,000. Buyers only need a 5% deposit to qualify and the Government will lend them an equity loan of 20% of the property value. The loan is interest-free for the first five years, after which buyers must pay an annual fee. Borrowers can repay the loan at any time. For further information about Help to Buy Phase 2 and to find out more about your mortgage options, please contact Dixons Estate Agents by telephone on 01215 507474 or email manager. halesowen@dixonscountrywide.co.uk

Haywood Drive, Halesowen



Offers Over £130,000

This semi detached property is situated at the head of a cul-de-sac and benefits from far reaching views to the rear. Halesowen

Glaslyn Avenue, Rowley Regis



£90,000

This modern second floor apartment comprising open plan lounge/kitchen, two bedrooms and allocated parking. Halesowen.

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FAMILY AFFAIR: NEW & USED CAR RETAILER CELEBRATES 60 YEARS OF BUSINESS BY OPENING A NEW SITE

A family run business thought the only way to celebrate their 60 years of trading would be to open another site in the West Midlands, Hagley Road Motor Company in Birmingham.

The new site's General Manager is Oliver Grieveson who is the 3rd generation of the family to join the business and supported by Bill Martin and Carl Thompson with their wealth of experience in car sales and customer care.

As a dynamic, modern business they recognise the importance of value for money, convenience and efficiency. Oliver, Bill and Carl are there to make buying your dream car a pleasant and hassle free experience. They offer finance packages and accept part exchanges and will always go the extra mile to track down the perfect car for you.

With access to a large range of quality used cars from within group stock to display on the new site at Hagley Road Motor Company they have price ranges to suit all budgets, from a little run about up to SUVs and 4x4s they have something for everyone. Taking all the stress and hassle out of buying a used car all their vehicles come with AA Warranty for your peace of mind and are prepared to a high standard before delivery, this includes a service and MOT.

Oliver Grieveson commented "I am very excited with this new venture and have got off to a flying start. We are immensely proud that we are and have always been a privately owned family run business, as we feel this enables us to put our customers first. We don't look for short-term gain, we strive to build strong relationships with our customers and offer a quality service over a lifetime. Most of our vehicle supply is from part exchanges from our own local franchise dealerships across the West Midlands. They are all HPI checked for insurance write-offs,

outstanding finance, congestion charges/fines, mileage etc. Making sure that with us there are never any hidden problems; what you're promised really is what you get!" The independent, family-owned business is proud to have served motorists in the West Midlands for over half a century, and with a fantastic range of used vehicles and an outstanding aftersales service, there's no wonder the dealership is looking forward to a bright future.

The business was first founded by Mr Derrick Grieveson in Worcester in 1953 - and operated under the name of Worcester Carsales. The dealership moved in 1963 to a new site in Hylton Road, Worcester, and 1973 saw Mr Grieveson's son and current Managing Director, Mr Stuart Grieveson, join the family company. In the last 25 years the company has acquired many new car franchised dealerships in the West Midlands and is enthusiastic to open the Hagley site as a used car facility.

Over the last 60 years, the family-run business has seen three generations of the Grieveson family enjoying working for the firm and to date, two of Mr Grieveson's grandchildren work within the group.

Mr Stuart Grieveson comments: "We are a strong workforce with an excellent work ethic - and I'm delighted we are celebrating 60 years of service".

For more information about Hagley Road Motor Company, please visit the dealership on Hagley Road West, Smethwick, B67 5EY. Alternatively, call 0121 43 46 400 or go online to www.hagleyroadmotorco.co.uk



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Motoring

Cool for cars – Merc rises in brands list



Urban chic – Mercedes has moved up five places since making the list last year

MERCEDES-BENZ again features prominently in the annual CoolBrands list, ranked 11th from more than 10,000 independently-identified brands in the 2013/14 survey.

The company's position shows a climb of five places over its 2012 CoolBrands debut, and is the highest position of any "full-line" automotive brand – describing a car company with a wide range of models. The outright winner was Apple.

The CoolBrands list, now in its 12th year, follows a vote by a combination of 3,000 consumers and a panel of 37 designers, style experts, media personalities and prominent figures from the worlds of TV, fashion and music.

Helping rate coolness this year were the likes of TV chef Gizzi Erskine, musicians Laura Mvula and Charli XCX, Festival founder Rob da Bank and model Daisy Lowe.

This year, Mercedes-Benz has delivered a wealth of new models to UK customers including: the new A-Class compact hatchback; compact CLA four-door coupé; New E-Class family; GL-Class SUV; the stunning new S-Class luxury saloon. The exciting GLA compact SUV will arrive in spring 2014.

Premium

Marcus Breitschwerdt, president and CEO Mercedes-Benz UK, said: "Mercedes-Benz is breaking one sales record after another in the UK – we're the fastest-growing premium manufacturer, and AMG is the UK's fastest-

growing high performance brand. Our showrooms around the country are full of the coolest cars we've ever made, and we're tireless in our efforts to bring more innovation, style – and great service of course – to more customers than ever before."

Breitschwerdt continued: "It's really great to see that as well as attracting more new customers to our brand, our efforts have been identified by a panel of expert judges and 3,000 consumers."

Stephen Cheliotis, Chairman of the CoolBrands Expert Council, said: "The brand qualities we examine in the CoolBrands survey – such as authenticity and innovation – can be key influences on consumer purchasing, so performing well is not just a thumbs up for a brand's reputation, but an indication of its future success."

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American icon now more Euro pleasing

By Ian Donaldson

LET'S talk sweeping generalisations: Americans like big engines in their cars and don't worry too much about fit and finish.

We Europeans, on the other hand, like our cars well built and economical, especially with fuel prices heading for outer space.

For decades those two sets of differences were obvious every time the Americans tried to sell a car this side of the Atlantic; a few of us had the money to feed their cars' thirst and some of us didn't mind a build quality the wrong side of a DIY project.

Well, things are changing. Even an American driver worries about the cost of a fill up and exposure to the better European machines has developed a taste for cars that make an owner proud to be seen in one.

It's hard to think of a brand more closely linked with the States than Jeep, the builder of tough machines that will go places a well trained tank driver might hesitate over.

Controlled

But even Jeep, now controlled by Fiat in Italy, is aiming to please European buyers with cars that compete with the best on performance and economy and don't look shabby inside, anymore.

The shining example of this newish way of thinking comes in the muscular but gently understated looks of the latest Jeep Grand Cherokee, with refreshed looks at the front and deeper changes inside and under the skin.

Most important are the Fiat inspired changes to the big diesel engine that powers almost every Euro-bound Grand Cherokee; a vastly powerful petrol V8 is available but will be bought by almost nobody here.

It's now more economical and, bolted to a new eight speed automatic transmission, gives this big, heavy car a spritely turn of speed and the possibility of decent economy with sensible use of the right foot.

It's up there with the likes of Land Rover's Discovery on both performance and consumption and feels genuinely swift when the super-smooth gearbox is prodded into changing down.

Even more surprising, with memories of wobbly riding Jeeps of old, was an air sprung suspension system that coped beautifully with a host of road surfaces, only going temporarily to pieces on a stretch ribbed by submerged tree roots.

Banishing

Inside, the changes are aimed at banishing the built down to a price feel of too many American cars. It's a partial success, with smart leather on the seats and a new and delightfully legible instrument panel, quite the equal of anything from, say, Mercedes.

Only some oddly open grained wood trim in black let the side down, even if a step up from the horrid and obviously plastic 'wood' we used to see in upmarket American autos.

Where there's no denying the Grand Cherokee's strength is in what you get for your money. The range starts at £36,995 for the Laredo version, the only one with a depowered version of the diesel engine fitted across the range.

You guess it's there to make the entry price look enticing but I suspect more buyers will go for the £49,495 Summit that tops the diesel range and comes dripping with kit.

Highlights include a high tech four-wheel drive system, Harmon Kardon hi-fi that would fill the Royal Albert Hall, electric seats, intelligent cruise control that keeps you a safe distance from the car in front and a sat nav displayed on a big screen that's a model of clarity.

It adds up to comfortably the most European feeling off-roader from Jeep and is worthy of short-listing against its obvious rival from Solihull.



The new Cherokee is more refined in the cabin with better fuel consumption



Tough machines that feel genuinely swift when the gearbox changes down



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★ **PEUGEOT 207 SW, 57** plate, 45,000 miles, black, long MoT, tax, 1.6 diesel, £3,300 ono. 01922 409284.

RENAULT SCENIC 1.4, red, 05 plate, new cambelt, MoT, short Tax, great car £1,495. 01902 674318.

RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE 106 1500DCI 56 plate, panoramic sunroof, multi change CD player, low miles, £30 per year tax, tax Mar, MoT Jan, emigration forces sale, **£3,200 ono.** 01902 881246.

★ **RENAULT MEGANE** Extreme DCI 185E4, 2005/55, 91,000 miles, black, long MoT, diesel, tax, perfect condition, £1,895. 01562 883818.

ROVER MINI COOPER SPORT 1999, 68,000 miles, British Racing Green, air bag, alarm, 10 months MoT, 4 months road tax, alloys, stereo, CD, spots, leather interior, petrol, beautiful car, quick sale preferred! **£3,500 ono.** 07792 363963.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 03 reg, silver, 12 months MoT, 6 months tax, 44k miles, all old MoT's, very good condition. **£1,675 ono.** 07973 859951/01384 351878.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI, black, 2005, 56k miles, electric windows, PAS, alloys, CD player, lovely condition, £2,200 ono. 07961 314920.

VAUXHALL ZAFIRA Design 1.9CDTi, 56 reg, 79,000k, 6 months tax and MoT, FSH, cam belt changed, £4,750. 07960 770263.

VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT Diesel, Saloon, 1.9 SD, 4 door, 2007, only 34,500 miles, fsh, blue, immaculate condition, bereavement forces sale, priced to sell. **£5,750.** 01902 665018.

VOLVO S40 DRIVE SE, 60 plate, from brand new, full dealer history, full MoT, gray with black leather, 100k miles, £5,995. 07801 762131.

VOLVO S60 2007, Auto, petrol, taxed, MoT, 120k miles, full leather, excellent condition. **£2,400.** 01902 736630.

VW T25 CARAVELLE 7 seater, Auto, 2.1 petrol, LPG conversion, tax, MoT, very good condition in/out. £3,750. 0901 01299 877979.

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CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 sv, 2001, 8 months MoT, 6 months tax, nice condition, one previous owner, CD air con, electric, £600. 07908 240327.

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FORD FIESTA FLIGHT 1.3, 3dr, 2001 Y reg, 66k miles, 12 months MoT, immaculate cond inside/out, £695 ono. Call 01902 618380.

FORD FIESTA Flight, 1.3, 3dr, 2002, 65,000 miles, 9 months MoT, 4 months tax, good condition, £1,000. 07969 561801.

FORD KA 1.3 petrol elec windows CD, Tax February 2014, MoT September 2014, £600. Telephone 07901 012338.

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HONDA PRELUDE 1-V-Tech 1994, two door saloon, 2198cc, Red, two owners from new, 3685 ono. 01902 835812/07879 799564.

MAZDA 626 MoT October, new drive axels, bearings, seals, rings etc, £600. 01902 686975.

MGF TF Cabriolet 53 reg, 68,000 miles, 12 months MoT, grey, alarm, central locking, excellent condition, £1,000 ono. 07839 353221.

MGTF red, 52 plate, MoT April 2014, tax till February 2014, 56,000 miles, needs new head gasket, £800 ono. 07876 757192 (Walsall).

NISSAN MICRA S X reg, electric blue, SR, nice clean little car, MoT and tax, £795. 07789 893224.

PEUGEOT 306 CABRIOLET, R reg, midnight blue, full leather, alloys, CD, electric, full MoT, very good condition, £850. 07890 79104.

RENAULT MEGAN Y reg, MoT end of Nov 2013, very reliable car, £300 ono. 01902 300768.

RENAULT SCENIC 1.6, silver, 2004, tax Dec, MoT June 2014, excellent condition, well maintained, £1,850. 07751 552389.

ROVER 25 BUBBLE 03, full MoT, taxed, 1 owner, lovely condition £850. 07811 207388.

ROVER 75 Club Turbo, 53 reg, 8 months MoT, good condition, £1,395 ono. 01384 274809.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXI, silver, 52 reg, MoT, tax, 81,000 miles, cil, limited windows, very good condition, £1,175 ono. 01902 418671.

VAUXHALL CORSA 2001, 1.2, 12 months MoT, 5 months tax, very good condition, £550 o.n.o. 07759 737894.

★ **VAUXHALL VECTRA 1.8** Club Estate, 2000, W, 32.5k miles, silver, petrol, MoT Feb, tax March, excellent condition, £550. 01384 251003.

VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.4GL 1998, tax and MoT, clean some history. £345. 07946 140963.

VOLVO 850 N reg, All electric, MoT May, £300 ono. 07592 452423.

VW POLO 1.4 16v 2001, 90k miles, four months tax, seven months MoT, good condition. **£750 ono.** 01922 479590 or 07957 742129.

MORRIS 1000 1960, rare car with sunroof, 10 months MoT, tax exempt, smoke grey, some rust but in good condition. **£1,250 ono.** Unique reg. 489NPE) 01902 665018.

Telephone 01584 890860.

commercial vehicles

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RENAULT TRAFFIC 1.9 SZ 27 DCI 100 Diesel, sld, 2006, service history, 80,000 miles only, new tax, long MoT, stereo, same as Vivaro, one owner, bulkhead, light use, alarm, immaculate clean van. **£4,500 no VAT.** Telephone 07788 767167.

TRANSIT HIGH TOP 2004, taxed, MoT, £1,300 ono. 07792 95712.

VAUXHALL VIVARO 1.9 TD blue, 03 plate, 4 months tax, 8 months MoT, alloys, roof rack, very clean condition, **£1,795 ono.** 07946 611382. 01384 326503.

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KAWASAKI KX60, School boy scambler, 2005, lots of money spent, make ideal present, £700. o.n.o. 07939 483221.

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council www.dudley.gov.uk Licensing Act 2003 Notice of application for a Premises Licence (Section 17 of the Act). Name of applicant: Mr Atiqur Rahman of Happy House Cantonese Takeaway, 188A Stourbridge Road, Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3AS. Statement of Relevant Licensable Activities or Relevant Qualifying Club Activities which it is proposed will be carried on or from the premises. Late Night Refreshment

Mon	23.00 - 23.30
Tue	23.00 - 23.30
Wed	23.00 - 23.30
Thur	23.00 - 23.30
Fri	23.00 - 00.30
Sat	23.00 - 00.30
Sun	23.00 - 23.30

As per previous owner The full application can be inspected by contacting the Licensing Section between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.30 pm (Monday to Friday except public holidays). An on-line summary of the application can be viewed on www.dudley.gov.uk. Any representations by a Responsible Authority or Interested Party must be made in writing between 16/10/13 and 12/11/13 to the Licensing Officer, Legal & Democratic Services, 5 Ednam Road, Dudley, West Midlands DY1 1HL. It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5,000.

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk (remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

10 Personals

ATTRACTIVE LADY Smart, mid 60's, Widow. WLTm a tall, N/S, Widow Gentleman, approx early 70's. To share outings, trips and care for each other hopefully leading to long term relationship. Photo taken, returned. Write Box No. P18884 (WS), Shropshire Newspapers Ltd, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

FREE TEXT MESSAGES from women wanting discreet Adult Fun! Call 08444 48402 for full details. Discretion assured!

GENTLEMAN, LATE 50'S Seeking a lady between 40-55 for a long term relationship. I'm a very kind and trustworthy person, I live on my own and am self employed, I'm very outgoing, I enjoy walking, going out for meals and going on holiday. It would be nice to have someone to share these things with. Genuine replies only please. If possible a recent photo would be appreciated. Write Box No. P18872 (WS), Shropshire Newspapers Ltd, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

KIND WIDOW Retired professional, well educated, intrepid traveller, financially secure, non smoker, 5ft 8, size 10, curly brown hair and I am told beautiful green eyes, OHAC in Wolverhampton. I like radio 4, live music, stand up comedians, ballet etc. I would like to meet a tall, kind man 68-73, similar status to myself to travel, have fun, party and most of all fall in love. Box Number P18881, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GOALKEEPING DEVELOPMENT DAYS UEFA B Level 3 Qualified Coaching. Wednesday, October 30, and Thursday, October 31, at Holly-hall Academy, Dudley, and Friday, November 1, at Cheslyn Hay Leisure Centre, Cannock. 10am-3pm, £15 per day. Contact Bernard Moseley on 01384 233298 or 07970 868716. www.blackcountrygoalkeepercoaching.co.uk

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LOOK

LADY 63 Young outlook with GSOH, n/s. WLTm n/s Gentleman with GSOH, between 60 - 65, who enjoys holidays, meals out, theatre ect., from Stourbridge and surrounding areas.

For friendship/possible long term relationship. Box Number P18882, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE 44 Average looks, GSOH and outgoing, looking for a kind hearted lady, 35 - 46, n/s, GSOH, for friendship and nights in and out and possible relationship. Single mums welcome. Box Number P18883, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

SLIM ATTRACTIVE MAN 51 Caring, good sense of humour, likes country walks and meals out and good conversation. Would like to meet lady 40-55 for evenings out and friendship. Box Number P18877, Express and Star, Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs

FC PERTON Charter Standard Club. Qualified Coaches. Urgently require U11's GOALKEEPER PLUS OUTFIELD PLAYERS. Phone Paul on 07592 065735.

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general

Old Hales hit double figures in away win

**Kings Heath 0
OHHC 1st 10**

OLD Halesians Hockey Club Mens 1st XI visited Kings Heath who were above them in the table prior to the game.

The visitors started at a vicious pace, and soon broke the deadlock with Captain Chris Whitley leading the way.

Before the break, Old Hales doubled their lead from a Graham Knight strike.

The second half saw a performance to remember for Hales, as they put eight goals past Kings Heath.

Knight grabbed his brace, Harry Hughes put his name on the scoresheet, Man of the Match Paul Harrold got Hales' fifth, before a spectacular goal from Doug Houghton, dribbling past five players, made it six.

Tom Bulteel got Hales' seventh and Paul Woodall made it eight for Hales.

Charles Palmer added the ninth before Josh Rand-hawa made it 10.

Other Results: Kings Heath 4 OHHC Ladies 1st 5; OHHC 2nds 5 Streety 1; Bromsgrove 4 OHHC Ladies 2nds 6; Olton & WW 10 OHHC 3rds 0; OHHC 4ths 0 Birmingham Uni 3; Khalsa 9 OHHC 5ths 0

Giles puts the match out of reach

**Dudley Sports 1
Wednesfield 2**

IN-FORM Wednesfield protected their unbeaten run of seven West Midlands Premier League games with a hard-earned victory in a very entertaining game.

Chances were few and far between with both defences dominating until the 40th minute.

Tom Maydew put the finishing touch to a good build up with an excellent shot from the edge of the area to put Wednesfield in front.

The visitors held on to their slender lead with keeper Sam Arnold playing his part with some good saves.

However, Sports deserved their equaliser on the hour when Dominic Strevens with a simple tap in from six yards after Wednesfield had failed to clear a corner.

With both sides going all out for the three points both keepers were kept busy.

It was Wednesfield's Sam Giles who clinched the game in the 70th minute.

Sides battle hard but are pegged back

Sutton 34 Old Halesonians 19

OLD Hales travelled to Sutton expecting a hard battle and that's what they got.

Sutton were well-drilled and made the visitors defend for a large part of the game. This was not helped by replacement Andy Robinson getting injured in the warm up and losing second-row Rich Sawyer with a broken finger, replaced by James Sadler.

Sutton started strong and after leading with a penalty, Hales fought back with Loz Breese going over in the corner, converted by Pete Clifford to lead. In the next 20

minutes Sutton scored three converted tries to lead 24-7 at half time. The visitors tried to rally and the second half saw a glimpse of a fight back. Chris Hooper scored a try for Hales which was converted by Clifford.

Tom Dempsey receiving a yellow card for obstruction which gave Sutton three penalty points.

Again Hales tried to work back into the game by again using their backs to good effect. Winger Joe Oxford grabbed a try in the corner, for Hales but Clifford hit the upright.

Further injuries to scrum half

Rugby

Nathan Jones, replaced by Ben Tringham, and centre Pete Clifford, replaced by prop John Deeks, didn't help the visitors' cause.

Sutton put the game beyond reach with a final try and conversion on 80 minutes. Hales now look to lick their wounds and get back on track with a home game against Bedford Athletic this Saturday, kick off 2.15pm.

**Old Halesonians 2nd 21
Birmingham Medics 1st 39**
Birmingham Medics hit the

ground running with a try within the first two minutes.

Although Old Hales tried to get into the game the visitor's free running backs opened up the home side's defence to score a second try.

The home side attacked relentlessly but the Medics defence was outstanding. Finally, the combination of Sam Jones barging up the middle and a decisive run from Andy Holloway released Jack Manners to outpace the Medics defence to score under the posts, Tom Harris converted.

Before half time Medics landed a penalty and then scored a fine converted try to lead 20-7 at the break.

In the second half the visitors broke from their own half and good support play led to a converted try.

A series of Hales forward drives culminated in Chris Deeks forcing himself over for a try converted by Tom Harris. Once again, a decisive break by the Medics resulted in a try. Old Hales then continued to test the visitors defence, with Jon Harris finally got the better of the defence for a try, converted by brother Tom.

The visitors rounded off a deserved win with a late converted try.

Yeltz hold on as Goole fight two goal deficit

Halesowen 3 Goole 2

HALESOWEN managed to keep hold of three points as they beat mid-table Goole, who came back from being two goals down.

Halesowen then took the lead as Tom Tonks threw the ball into the box and Ilysen Christie managed to touch the ball down and curl it past the keeper into the bottom left hand corner. Yeltz then got a second goal as Ben Haseley grabbed his 19th goal of the season from a great through ball off Tonks.

Yeltz kept pressing for more goals as a curling free kick from Neil MacKenzie flew dangerously into the box and Matt Martin got a touch to the ball with his head, but the ball just flew past the right hand post.

Halesowen then conceded a shocker of a goal, as Sam Pearson ran out of his area to attempt to clear the ball, but he clashed into Joe Hull and William Johnson-Cole ran past both of them to hit the ball from a very tight angle.

Halesowen tried to get the third goal as Tonks managed to hit a cross to Christie, but his shot missed.

Steven Wakefield then grabbed an equaliser in what seemed to be a turnaround from Goole, who hadn't got hugely involved in the match.

In the second half Halesowen were unlucky not to be in the lead, as a curling cross went into the penalty area and Aaron Griffiths managed to get his head to the ball, but it was saved.

Goole then had their first chance of the half, as a Sam Colbear header flew towards goal, and Tonks denied

Football

Goole with a last gasp clearance.

Halesowen were then awarded a crucial penalty after substitute Jean-Michel Gueyes was fouled in the penalty area.

Neil MacKenzie stood up to take it, and he placed it perfectly into the bottom right hand corner to get Halesowen back into the lead with 15 minutes left.

Halesowen nearly got a fourth, as Christie slotted the ball perfectly for Elliott Turner to hit, but his shot went wide.

They were denied a fourth goal once again, but this time by the officials as Joe Hull ran at the keeper and the collision caused the shot stopper to fall into the net with the ball.

Halesowen kept going for more goals, as Gueyes had a shot at goal from 18 yards out, but the ball flew over the bar and into the stand.

The final chance of the game came from Halesowen as Ben Haseley managed to find space in the box, but he scuffed his shot.

Shaky Heathens steady to go on track for Cup

RAMPANT Dudley recovered from a shaky start to put one hand on the Knock-out Cup with a stunning win over the Isle of Wight Islanders at Monmore on Tuesday night.

Heathens paraded their National League championship trophy with the Mayor of Dudley, Councillor Alan Finch, before the meeting in front of their biggest crowd of the season.

But the party atmosphere was soon subdued when visiting guest Steve Worrall won the opening race with ease – and Heathens gifted Islanders reserves Chris Widman and Reece Downes a 5-0 in the next.

However, the former Cradley club soon hit their stride, with four 5-1s in the next five races to put them in the driving seat.

That gave Isle of Wight the chance to hit back through the use of tactical rides – but Lewis Blackbird and Dan Greenwood combined in fine style to snuff out former Heathens favourite Tom Perry in his attempt for double points.

Paul Starke then battled past Steve Worrall to nullify their second tactical ride and keep the home side in control, before Blackbird and he struck another maximum in heat 13.



Ashley Morris and the National League trophy with Mayor of Dudley Ken Finch

The penultimate race of the night saw reserve Gareth Isherwood edge past Islanders guest Lee Payne to snatch victory on the line to put them 25 clear. It was finally up to skipper Ashley Morris to cap off another wonderful evening with victory in heat

15 to preserve their healthy lead whilst also completing his paid maximum.

Paul Starke, Lewis Blackbird and Dan Greenwood all suffered just one defeat apiece in the main body to create a strong spearhead for the hosts with Nathan Greaves, Max

Clegg and Gareth Isherwood completing a superb all-around performance.

Dudley 58: Ashley Morris 14+1, Paul Starke 11+1, Lewis Blackbird 10+1, Dan Greenwood 9+2, Nathan Greaves 5+2, Max Clegg 5, Gareth Isherwood 4.
Isle of Wight 33: Steve Worrall 10, Tom Perry 8+1, Lee Payne 5+2, Ben Hopwood 4, Chris Widman 4, Reece Downes 2+1, Brendan Johnson R/R.

Champion Tai is VIP at night of awards

NATIONAL League champions Dudley will be handed their medals by new World Champion Tai Woffinden.

British racer Woffinden, who has put the sport back on the map in the national media with his stunning title glory, has agreed to be special guest at the Heathens presentation night on Friday, November 15, at the Copthorne Hotel in Brierley Hill.

It promises to be an emotional evening as Heathens supporters celebrate their first title in 30 years.

Dudley chairman Nigel Pearson said: "I've been talking to Tai about this for the past fortnight but we had to wait to ensure he was available.

"As a club we are thrilled to have the World Champion at our presentation. What he has done for the sport is remarkable, appearing on BBC breakfast TV and radio, in the newspapers and generally putting the sport back in the shop window."

"It was always going to be a special night because of our massive success this season – but this just makes it even more special and Tai will be happy to sign autographs and have his picture taken."

Four titles on the line for boxers

BOXING fans are in for a treat at Priory Park ABC's next show with no fewer than four titles on the line.

The show at the Venue on Friday November 1 will see eight fighters battle it out for coveted Central Area belts.

Priory Park's Josh Aston takes on Warley's Mat Windle for the vacant bantamweight crown, while Priory's Sikander Rasool defends his lightweight title against Scunthorpe's Matthew Harness.

Ryan Partridge, also of Priory, faces Bracebridge's Nathan De Castro for the vacant middleweight belt and Walsall Wood's Dan Breeze defends his title against an as yet unnamed opponent.

Six further fights complete the bill.

Tickets start from £20. For more information call Paul Gough on 07528 5455786 or email priory-parkpromotions@gmail.com.



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Yeltz hold out
Squad keeps nerve as a
two goal lead disappears
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Wight night
Heathens shake
off shaky start
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Cradley hat-trick ruins it for Casuals

Wolverhampton Casuals 2
Cradley Town 4

A JAMES WELNITSHUK second half hat-trick ruined Wolverhampton Casuals' chances of sharing top spot in the West Midlands Premier League with leaders Lye Town.

On 11 minutes Cradley keeper Matt Jones pushed away a shot to Chris Henry who made no mistake from six yards to put Casuals ahead.

Henry claimed his second goal in the 40th minute from close range.

The visitors made it 2-1 in the 67th minute when skipper Scott Devlin scored from the penalty spot.

On 76 minutes Cradley deserved to be on level terms with Welnitshuk powerfully heading home a great cross from Devlin.

It was Welnitshuk who made it 3-2 in the 82nd minute lofting the ball over Jackson.

He completed his hat-trick six minutes later for Cradley's fourth goal cashing in on some poor defending to create the upset result of the night.

Nap hand for super striker

Chippenham 0
Stourbridge 9

ON-loan Glassboys striker Ryan Rowe hit five goals as Gary Hackett's side shutout nine-man Chippenham.

Hackett's men made a positive start and took the lead after seven minutes when Rowe poked home.

Rowe got in behind the Chippenham defence to double the advantage.

Sean Geddes made it three with a deflected effort from the edge of the area. Close to the hour Geddes grabbed his second.

Rowe took a return pass from substitute Dean Bennett for his hat-trick.

The Glassboys then made the most of their numerical advantage in the final 10 minutes, Luke Benbow adding to the tally.

Rowe made it 7-0, Benbow drove home again and Rowe completed the rout with his fifth.

Newly ranked Whiley is off to California

Tennis

FRESH from winning her second women's doubles title at the weekend Halesowen's Jordanne Whiley is heading to the NEC Wheelchair Tennis Masters and ITF Wheelchair Doubles Masters in Mission Viejo, California.

Whiley has been boosted by a new career best doubles ranking due to the title wins at the Nottingham Indoor over the weekend.

She teamed up with her London 2012 bronze medal-winning partner Lucy Shuker for the doubles and the top seeds won their fourth title together from five tournaments this year.

Whiley and Shuker eased into the final for

the loss of just two games and they then won the opening set against second seeds and defending champions Louise Hunt and Sabine Ellerbrock 6-4, before Hunt and Ellerbrock were forced to retire midway through the second set due to injury.

Whiley has subsequently moved up one place to a career best women's doubles ranking of No. 5 this week, improving on her previous best of No. 6, which she first attained in April this year.

She will partner Japan's Yui Kamiji, the

player with whom she reached the Wimbledon final in July, in the ITF Wheelchair Doubles Masters.

The British No.1 ranked singles player eased into the women's singles semi-finals in Nottingham before bowing out to Dutch world No.3 and eventual champion Jiske Griffioen in straight sets.

Whiley will hope to reproduce the kind of form that saw her beat Griffioen in the USA in September when she contest the upcoming Masters events.

"We're delighted with another ITF 1 doubles title ahead of our singles and doubles events in California," said Whiley.

"It was a solid performance and now I'm really looking forward to playing with Yui again in California.

"It could work out that me and Lucy could meet and be on the other side of the net to each other in the USA.

"We're both pairing up with players that we partnered to Grand Slam finals this year, but we've also reached the final of the Doubles Masters together in the past.

"It wasn't my best day in the singles semi-finals in Nottingham against Jiske, but I know I can beat her as I already have. I've beaten several of the players ranked above me during the year."

Run for Robins is at an end

Dudley Town 2
Wolverhampton Casuals 3
DUDLEY'S excellent run of results was brought to an end by one goal from Wolverhampton Casuals in this top of West Midlands Premier League match.

Casuals went on the attack from the start and they were rewarded for their efforts when Matt Bailey headed in a Craig Love corner from six yards in the 17th minute.

Three minutes later Casuals raced into a 2-0 lead when the Robins were caught out with another corner this time Angelo Franco played a low corner to central defender Ben Evans who beat keeper Thomas Harper from six yards.

There was an explosive start to the second half as Rion Frances-Mills lofted the ball over Casuals' keeper Stephen Jackson to make it 2-1 in the 52nd minute.

Four minutes later Chris Henry, with a well-taken penalty, restored Casuals two goal advantage after a Dudley defender had handled a Chris Russell shot.

On 61 minutes Robin's Ashley Greenaway made it 3-2 placing the ball beyond Jackson.

Saxon Wright is to face hearing

STOURBRIDGE hooker Scott Wright will appear before a Rugby Football Union disciplinary panel on October 30 following his sending off in Saturday's National Two North match at Chester.

Wright has been charged with punching or striking an opponent. He will appear at the Coventry M6 Holiday Inn hotel before a panel.

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YELTZ CRASH OUT FOR FOURTH TIME

Yeltz 1 Wolves 2

HALESOWEN crashed out of the Birmingham Senior Cup for the fourth time in five years as Wolves made a major turnaround to win in extra time.

The Yeltz took the lead on 12 minutes when Jean-Michel Gueyes ran down the right wing and hit a cross into the box for Tom Tonks' to head past the outstretched Wolves keeper.

Wolves then had a goal by Eusebio Bancesi ruled offside.

Elliott Turner nearly claimed a second for Yeltz with a low shot but Aaron McCarey denied him with a good reaction save.

The first proper chance of the second half resulted in a goal as a mistake by the Halesowen defence who allowed Carlo Erdel to curl the ball into the Yeltz net.

Skimmed

Ben Haseley then came close to getting Halesowen back into the lead but the ball just skimmed the top of the net.

Wolves kept pressing and were starting to show how dangerous they really were as Bancesi ran through the Yeltz defence.

He hit a powerful shot that rattled the Yeltz crossbar.

Matt Martin came close to giving Halesowen a late winner as he managed to turn in the Wolves box and he smashed the ball towards goal for it to go just wide.

Seconds later, Tom Tonks found space in the box, and hit a shot at goal, but the ball flew into the keeper's hands and normal time ended.

Football

The first chance of extra time came from Wolves as Jordan Cranston hit a shot from 20 yards out, the ball flew over the crossbar and out of the stadium.

Wolves kept pressing and Kristian Kostrna nearly got the goal Wolves were looking for as he hit a long-range shot and the ball clipped the top of the crossbar and out for a goal kick.

Wolves then took the lead 10 minutes in as Sam Whittall took the ball into the Yeltz penalty area.

He slipped the ball under Paul Evans to grab the lead and ultimately what turned out to be a place in the second round.

Halesowen nearly got an equaliser in the final moments of the game, as Nigel Penney forced his way through the Wolves' defence and he hit a powerful, goal-bound shot that was fantastically saved by McCarey.

Halesowen were incredibly unlucky to have been knocked out.

However, Wolves had the better fitness levels and so therefore, dominated the extra time period, but overall, Halesowen put up a good show but they had to face going out of the competition for the fourth time.



Halesowen's Jean-Michel Gueyes goes up against Jordan Cranston of Wolves in the Birmingham Senior Cup match

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